

China

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142

HANGZHOU SPECIAL

- Springtime at the West Lake
- People of Hangzhou
- Drinking Tea in Hangzhou
- Xiling Engravers' Society
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EDITORIAL

Hangzhou: A Paradise on Earth

Hangzhou, the capital of Zhejiang, was once also the capital of China during the Southern Song Dynasty. Marco Polo, besmitten with the huge edifices, the wide paved streets and the scenic West Lake, called Hangzhou the most distinguished and beautiful city in the world.

In the following pages you will learn that Hangzhou remains one of the most beautiful destinations in China. We bring you to the tourist attractions of the West Lake and take a tour of the lake in springtime when flowers are in full bloom. You will realize that Hangzhou is much more than another scenic spot when we present vignettes from peoples' lives and provide you with some insights into its culture. You will sample some of Hangzhou's famous teas including the renowned Longjing Tea, and its better-known dishes. You will visit the Xiling Seal Engravers' Society on historic Solitary Hill in the West Lake which offers beautiful and exquisitely carved seals.

We invite you to turn the pages and discover Hangzhou, a city the splendour of which has been celebrated in Chinese literature for centuries and which Marco Polo described as "Paradise".

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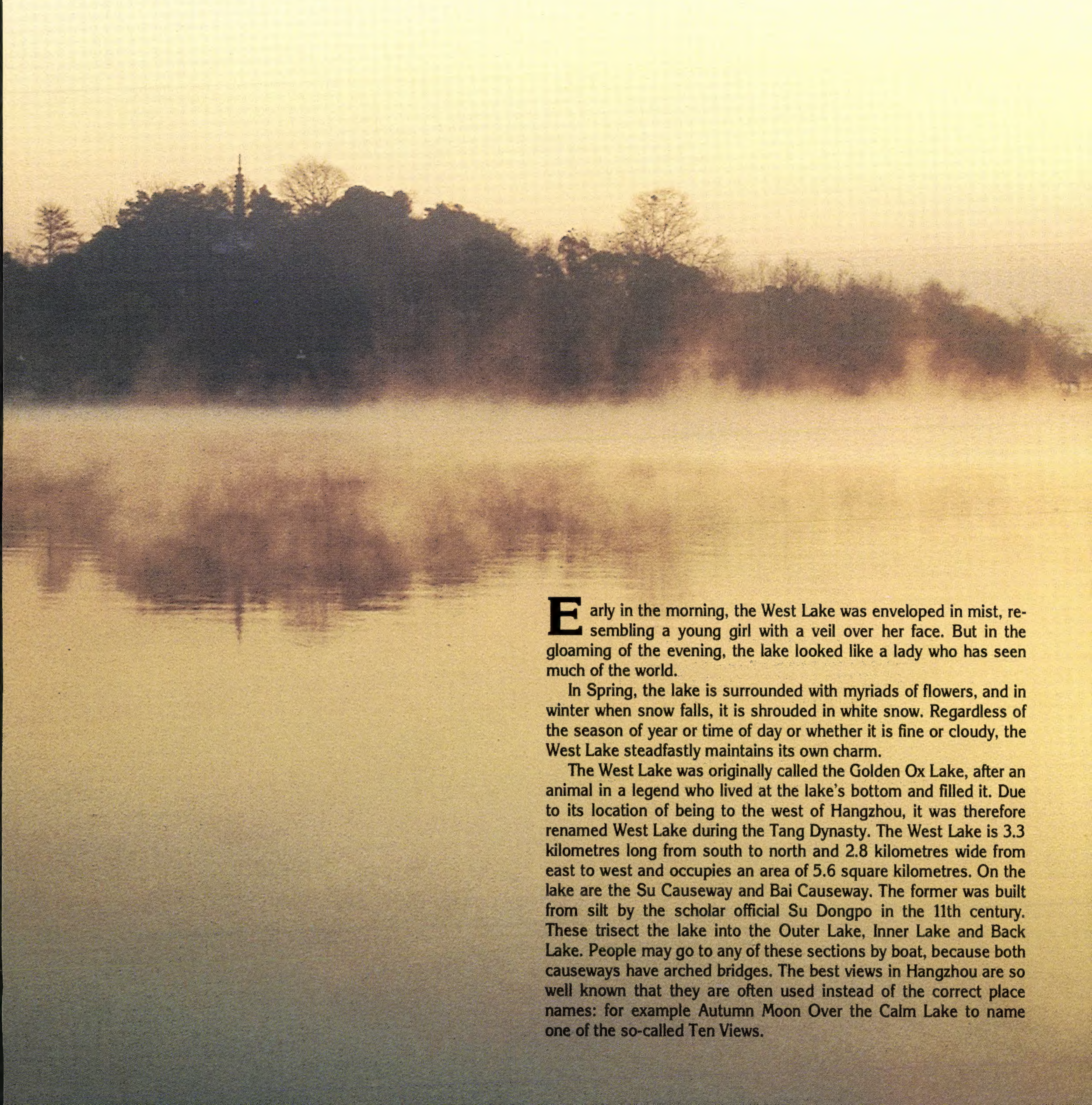
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Photo by Wang Jinqiu

Springtime at the West Lake

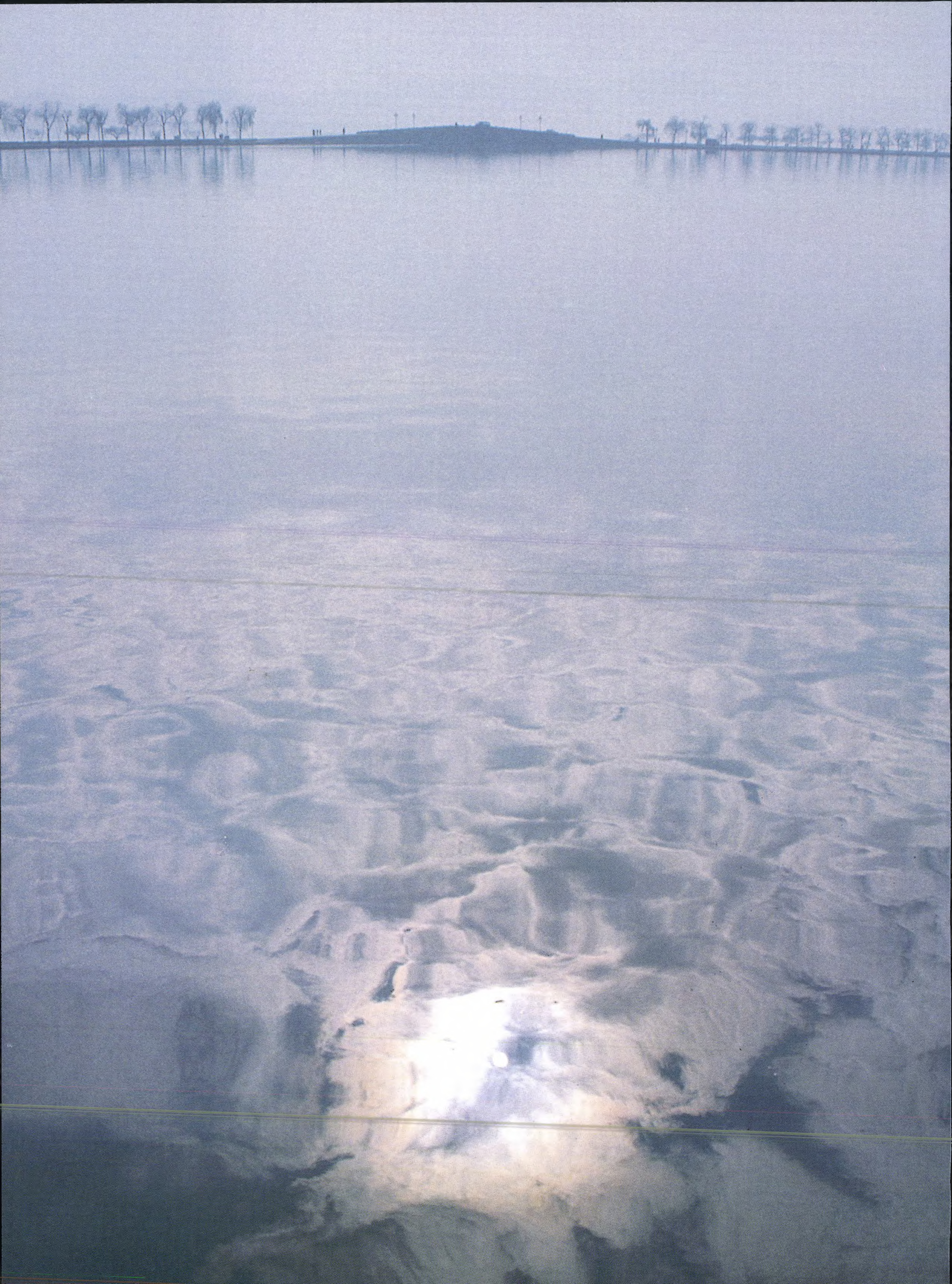
PHOTOS BY PENG ZHENGE
ARTICLE BY AN GE, CHEN MINGZHAO & GAO YE



Early in the morning, the West Lake was enveloped in mist, resembling a young girl with a veil over her face. But in the gloaming of the evening, the lake looked like a lady who has seen much of the world.

In Spring, the lake is surrounded with myriads of flowers, and in winter when snow falls, it is shrouded in white snow. Regardless of the season of year or time of day or whether it is fine or cloudy, the West Lake steadfastly maintains its own charm.

The West Lake was originally called the Golden Ox Lake, after an animal in a legend who lived at the lake's bottom and filled it. Due to its location of being to the west of Hangzhou, it was therefore renamed West Lake during the Tang Dynasty. The West Lake is 3.3 kilometres long from south to north and 2.8 kilometres wide from east to west and occupies an area of 5.6 square kilometres. On the lake are the Su Causeway and Bai Causeway. The former was built from silt by the scholar official Su Dongpo in the 11th century. These trisect the lake into the Outer Lake, Inner Lake and Back Lake. People may go to any of these sections by boat, because both causeways have arched bridges. The best views in Hangzhou are so well known that they are often used instead of the correct place names: for example Autumn Moon Over the Calm Lake to name one of the so-called Ten Views.



The West Lake is surrounded by mountains on three sides and on the fourth by the city of Hangzhou in Zhejiang Province. The highest mountain, one of the summits of the prospect Twin Peaks Penetrating the Clouds, rises 302 metres above sea level. The lake is rather vast with an average depth of 1.5 metres. One can easily touch water with his hands, yet, the lake shore is so well built that one does not have to worry about wetting his shoes. Trees on the lakeside are luxuriant, and dotted with ancient pavilions and buildings providing a quaint peaceful atmosphere. Lawns can be found everywhere. What is more is that there are no signs in sight written "No Trespassing!" People can not only walk on them but also sit down or lie down for a rest. Wherever you go, there are paths and benches. This is really a pleasant and comfortable area for people to enjoy the tranquil beauty of one of China's most famous spots.

In the bloom of spring during April, I luckily spent ten days in Hangzhou. Sometimes, I rode around on a bike in early morning or in the evening; sometimes, I joined tourist groups to see flowers; sometimes I rented a boat and rowed in the warm spring breeze. Indeed spring in Hangzhou, as people say, is most beautiful.



Waters of the West Lake, calm in the morning mist, look like a mirror (by Zhang Houquan).

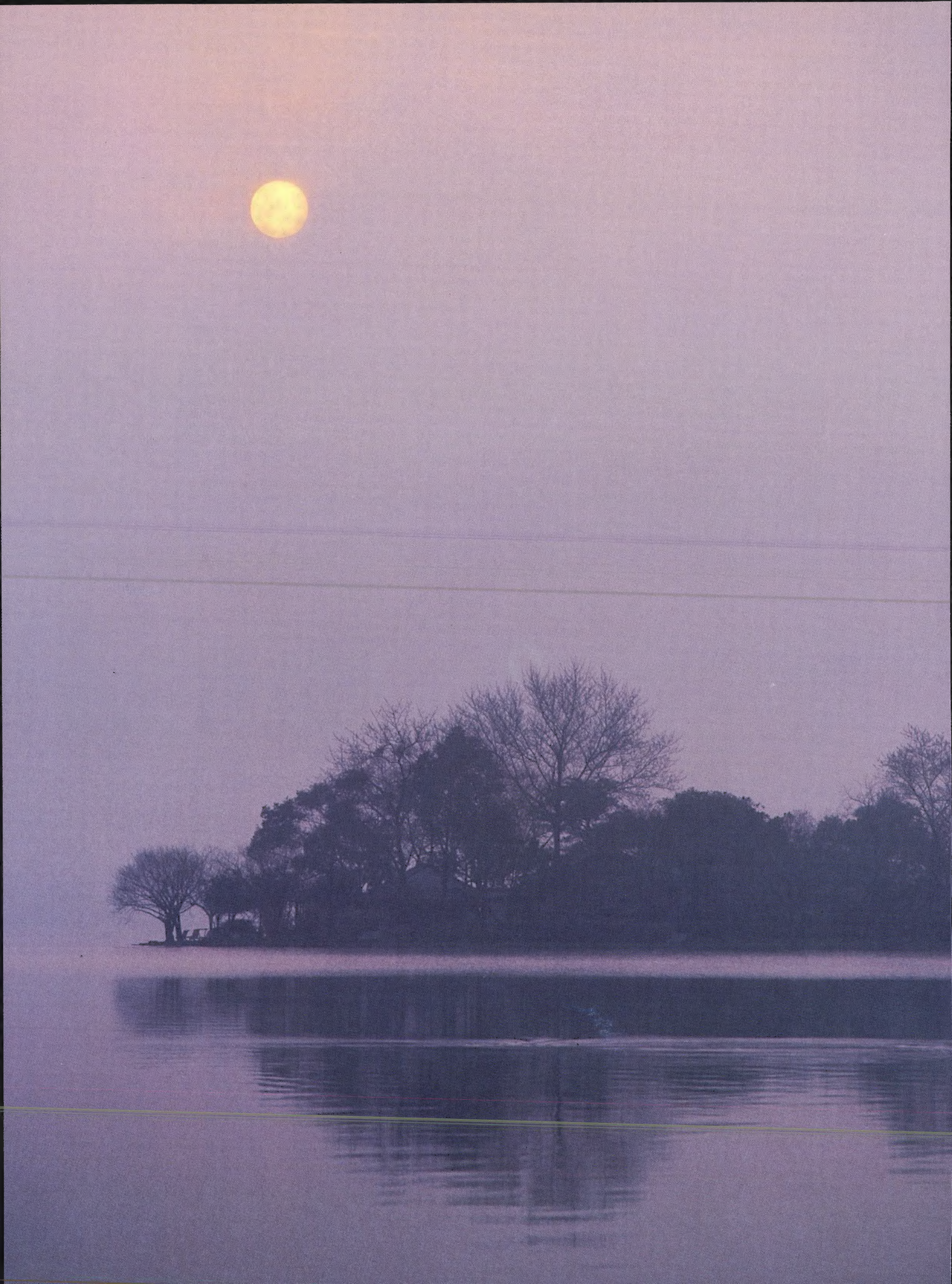


To read a newspaper in the breeze on the Bai Causeway is pleasant (by Wang Miao).

◀ ***The Bai Causeway, looking like a girdle, seems to separate the water from the sky.***

In the Misty Spring Drizzle

When it rains in Hangzhou, it usually drizzles, not like in Guangdong where it often pours. To go to the West Lake in drizzle is even more interesting. Once I rode a bike in drizzle to the lake in early morning. There were few people, the whole place seemed so quiet as if it were isolated. Mountains and the three islets in the lake appeared one moment and disappeared the next. Everything seemed to be nurtured by the drizzle. I rode past the Broken Bridge and got to the Bai Causeway along the Back Lake. Finally I reached the foot of the Solitary Hill, where I stopped to watch the beautiful panorama of the lake. Clouds of mist rolled over the lake. For a moment, they looked like white curtains covering everything behind them. Suddenly there came into sight a large tourist boat. It sidled along the lake shore, churning up water which lapped against the lakeside, and then sailed out of my vision. I moved on,



passed the Xiling Bridge and stopped from time to time on the shore until I arrived at the Su Causeway. On the causeway I crossed one bridge after another. Then the wind kicked up and forced the tops of the plants on the causeway to sway to and fro. Putting my bike on the grassy ground I hid myself in the pavilion on a nearby bridge.

Flowers Bloom in Riot

Riot is a word often referring to noise and disorder. But our ancient poet used this word to describe spring atmosphere. It is also an appropriate word to describe the spring blossoms in the area of the West Lake. From February on, flowers of all varieties begin to sprout. Winter jasmine is the first, followed by magnolia, oriental cherry, peach and crabapple blossoms. By the end of April, the dominant flowers are peony and azalea. Presently, the bright red flowers were truly blooming in riot.

Birds seemed as if they wanted to complement the beauty of the flowers. They flitted from tree to tree and from tree to the grass. They chirped and trilled. With each chirp, the bird's tail would twitch up a little.

People seem to get "spring fever" here too. Around the Qingming (Pure Brightness) Festival, people are given a spring holiday. Tourists and school children flock to some of the Ten Views such as Listening to



Wushan Hill is a place people like to go to enjoy their birds. Early in the morning, the birds chirp away merrily on the trees and in cages in the camphor tree woods (by Xie Guanghui).

◀ **Ruangong Mound Islet on the lake, shrouded in the morning clouds and mist, looks like a fairyland (by Wang Jinqiu).**



Doing morning exercises along the lakeside is beneficial to one's body and soul (by Xie Guanghui).





Opposite the Shuangfeng (Twin Peak) Tea Farm, there is a bank of peach blossoms at the foot of a hill.



Braving the drizzle, people like to go to Longjing. One can not only enjoy the scene along the way but also drink the famous Longjing Tea at his destination.

◀ **The drizzle dyes the trees on the bank of the West Lake with a tint of dark green (by Zhang Houquan).**



Fallen flower petals, lovers and drizzle — the stuff of poems (by Dong Yu)

Orioles in the Waving Willows, Watching Goldfish at Flower Harbour and others which now have parks. But places like Lesser Yingzhou are crowded with school children and tourists from other parts of the country. The Jinci Temple, the Lingyin Temple (Temple of the Soul's Retreat) and the Baochu Pagoda are frequented by women worshippers from Zhejiang and Jiangsu. They are never short of candles and joss-sticks. Young people like cycling up slopes to have picnics up in the hills. If the weather is fine, you may also see people flying kites. Though there might be a lot of people on the lake shore, it does not seem to be noisy or crowded. This is because the lake is so vast. There are so many gardens and parks around it. Only the high pitched sound of children's laughter can be carried far, far away, and gets lost in woods and lake water.

There are some ancient trees also worth seeing. On the edge of the Solitary Hill, there stood a tall cherry tree laden with white blossoms. When a gust of wind swept past, flower petals fell. While the fallen petals might remain on the ground for a couple of days, new flowers rapidly replaced the fallen blooms. On the Su Causeway there was a cluster of Chinese scholartrees, which were more than a century old. Looking from some distance, the new flowers of those trees clustered together resembled clouds of kitchen smoke.

The luxuriant maple trees in Liuzhuang Villa were quite unique. When the wind blew, countless green leaves swayed together, reminding one of the splash of colour on an oil. But the green grass, set off by the yellow wall of the Lingyin Temple, created a scene looking like an abstract painting.

Rowing a Boat Reveals More

Rowing a boat on the misty West Lake, one seemed to enter into another world.

In the distance, the Bai Causeway was covered by green tree leaves with their outlines blurred by the mist. A few people were moving

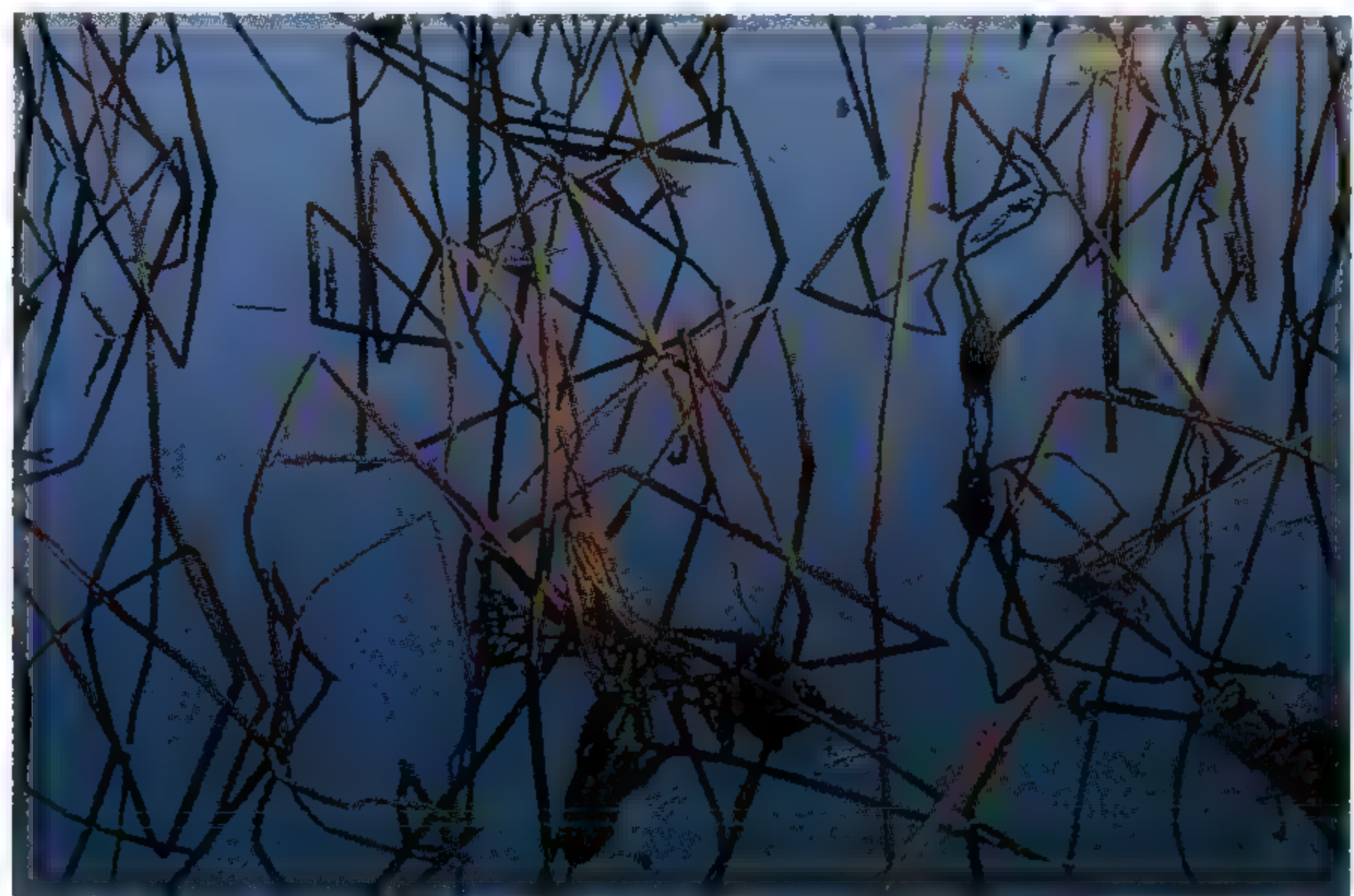




After a night of wind, the lawn of Liuzhuang Villa is coated by fallen flower petals (by Xie Guanghui).



The green grass and luxuriant trees sway in the breeze beside the yellow wall of ancient Lingyin Temple.



Lotus stems in the setting sun enhances spring's charm (by Xie Guanghui).

◀ *Beads of water fall like pearls from the swaying willow trees (by Zhang Keqing).*

around there. The entire scene created by the Solitary Hill, the hills upon hills behind it and the buildings dotted on those hills looked like a mirage. In the centre of the lake, the three islets seemed floating in between the sky and water. This made one think of the "Fairy Island at Penglai".

When our boat approached Ruangong Mound, I saw an old man who seemed to be standing on water. When the boat got closer, I realized that he was standing on a rock by the shore.

Wild ducks were floating on the surface of the lake. When a boat approached, they would stretch out wings and fly away closely over the water. But soon they would alight again, dashing up some spray of water. Then they would resume swimming leisurely.

When our boat reached Lesser Yingzhou, we went ashore. On this small islet there was an even smaller lake, spanned by a causeway and some bridges. In addition there were also pavilions and decorative walls.



At Huagang (Flower Harbour), the flowers are in bloom and the trees have turned green. Spring is at its height.





The bamboo corridor in the Liuzhuang Villa looks like a framed painting.




Pilgrims from the countryside of Jiangsu and Zhejiang sit on the lawn beside the lake, reluctant to leave (by Ge Weiwei).

◀ *A man quietly fishes on Ruangong Mound, an islet in the centre of the West Lake.*

If one lit three lanterns in the three stupas, the boatman said, he might see a dozen moons in both the sky and water. One of the Ten Views, it is located by the islet of Lesser Yingzhou in the Outer Lake.

On our way back, I heard the sound of a bell. And the boatman told me that it was from the Jinci Temple.

He loquaciously waxed poetic about the place. The pavilion on the Gushan Bridge, he said, had been built in memory of Li Shishi, a renowned courtesan during the Southern Song Dynasty (1127-1279). The Su Causeway and Bai Causeway were built by two great poets Su Dongpo and Bai Juyi when they served as local officials. The Bai Causeway was constructed during the Tang Dynasty to reinforce a sandbank division. The inscription tablet standing in the Mid-Lake Pavilion was carved in the calligraphy of Emperor Qianlong in praise of the landscape. Those well-known local tales rendered in an indigenous accent were even more fascinating. 

Translated by Wang Mingjie



A young mother takes her child to the lakeside to enjoy the fragrance of the flowers and the singing of the birds (by Xie Guanghui).

People of Hangzhou *An Appreciation of Beauty*

Hangzhou is perhaps best known for its beautiful landscape featuring the West Lake. It should not be surprising then that the culture of the earliest inhabitants some four to six millennia ago produced some attractive artifacts. This Liangzhu culture left some black pottery of fine black paste crafted by a potter's wheel as well as hollow cylindrical jade objects with animal masks reminiscent of Shang ritual bronzes more than a thousand years later. Hangzhou has long been renowned for its sericulture and silk products.

Almost as if they were procreated by the essence of this wonderful piece of land, people of Hangzhou are similarly most handsome. Girls, particularly, are fair-complexioned and well-proportioned on the whole. They dressed in the way they thought was good. It was natural and charming too, and in its own way it was compatible with the surroundings of the West Lake. However, today, I must say, Hangzhou girls are becoming quite in step with fashion. They have their hair permed, go to beauty parlours and even have their faces lifted. In current fashionable clothes, they appear more beautiful and graceful. Their demeanour remains in a sense ingrained with the grace nurtured by the West Lake.

To enjoy life thoroughly and be practical about it are the nature of the Hangzhou people. Anything that may bring comfort and pleasure would be made use of. The West Lake has provided a good environment for the local people's entertainment. For instance, in summer evenings, people would all go to the lakeside, bringing with them bamboo mats, to enjoy the evening cool. Many people even pass the night in the open on the Su Causeway or the Bai Causeway, breathing in the refreshing fragrance of lotus flowers and slumbering in the moonlight.

But there is so much more for people to do outdoors than appreciate nature. Yikuole is a well-known self-served snack bar. It provides variegated cuisine including Italian-style fried rice, American salad, Russian soup, sprigs of roast mutton shishkebob and more. In summer mornings, people come to have ice-cream in the cool breeze while catching up on some reading. If their eyes tired, they could simply enjoy the beautiful scenes of the lake.

Well-equipped karaoke centres can be found everywhere in this city. Disco with strong rhythm has long since undergone reformation to suit Chinese taste. Today it is also used to accompany fitness exercises for the aged and middle-aged. A mixture of dance and exercise, disco has become very popular in this city.

Apart from the celebrated lake, streets and lanes in the city as well as other areas have a wealth of simple pleasures to offer.



and Life

PHOTOS BY XIE GUANGHUI ARTICLE BY JING DIYUN





(Photo by Ma Yiu Chun)

Busy and Lively Morning

Hangzhou people are early risers and they usually get up before day-break. Everybody has his or her own way to greet a new day.



The Wushan Hill — A Morning Sports Centre

The Wushan Hill covered with luxuriant trees is another beauty spot in Hangzhou. When one gets to the hill top, he gains a panoramic view of the West Lake to the north and the surging Qiantang River to the south. In the old days, the area where the Wushan Hill presently stands used to be the centre of the old town. It was a lively and busy place with frequent temple fairs and other social activities. Today, the Wushan Hill has become a sports centre for the old folk. No wonder some people call it "A Hill for the Aged".

Around four or five o'clock in the early morning, old people living in the vicinity begin to climb up the hill, some with bird cages in hands, some carrying wooden swords, iron balls, Chinese fiddles, *pipa* or even tape recorders. When they get to the top, they gather into several groups. Some go to the teahouse to sip tea while enjoying their birds, some begin practising martial arts while singing arias from local opera or dancing. Now the once quiet hilltop has become a sports centre and a recreational centre. Unless you go there and have a look, you can hardly believe that those old folks are so lively. Take the fans of Shaoxing opera for example. Rain or shine they gather here to sing in the morning. Whether singing or acting, they most earnestly go about it.



Morning at Wulin Gate

In Hangzhou disco has already been converted into morning exercises. At the square of the Wulin Gate in the early morning, people by the thousand, from teenagers to those in their sixties, gather to dance to the beat of music not only vigorously but also gracefully, accompanied by the sad melody of Cantonese music. If you want to see the grand dance, you have got to get there before seven o'clock because soon those stars have to go to markets to buy food, to prepare breakfast, to look after children or to go to work.

Reading Newspaper

Reading the newspaper is a must in daily life for many people. While in Hangzhou, it is a pleasure to relax on a rattan chair to read newspapers while sipping a cup of Longjing tea. If one has to go out, he or she may snatch a few minutes to glance over newspapers under the luxuriant trees and amidst the buzzing of cicadas. People may also exchange views on issues in the paper. It must be quite interesting to them.



Capable Saleswomen

Two elderly ladies with embroidered bibs around their necks sitting at the lakeside attracted quite a crowd. They fetched a good sum of money by selling embroidered bibs, shoes and so on in busy streets. To attract people's attention, they wore bibs themselves, like a live point-of-purchase advertisement, and hawked their wares. They really knew how to sell their articles.



All for Children

Since the single-child policy of birth control was put into practice, the child has become the apple of parents' and even their grandparents' eyes. They hope with all their hearts that one day the child would grow into a great man.



"Little Emperor's" Birthday

In the old days, a red boiled egg would be all a child could get for his birthday anniversary. However, it is a thing of the past. Today, a child in Hangzhou would at least get a birthday cake with some candles on it. On the birthday anniversary, the child's parents, grandparents and even uncles and aunts would go to considerable trouble to make the child happy. They would buy birthday cake and busy themselves all the day to prepare delicious food.

Blowing out the candles on the cake, the sound of people's clapping would leave an indelible impression on the child's mind. He would never forget their love and understand their expectations.

Candy Counter

Children are all fond of colourfully wrapped candies in assorted shapes. When a mother with her child pass a candy counter in a department store, she would inevitably be talked into buying some candies for him. (Photo by Ma Yiu Chun)





Devoted Mothers

Today, a celebration party honouring all "Five Good Families" was held. It was sponsored by the neighbourhood committee. One of the requirements for such a family was the harmonious relationship between family members.

In fact, harmony exists in all families. Take that day for example. It was drizzling while performances were going on. I noticed that some devoted mothers held umbrellas over their children. Others spread out their raincoats over their kids. So long as the children could comfortably watch the performances, mothers would do everything possible to make them happy.



Great Expectations of Children

Like elsewhere, parents in Hangzhou spare no effort in tending to their only child. They send them to schools to learn how to play the violin, dance ballet, paint, etc., hoping they would develop great talents one day. They have to go to work during the day and attend to household chores after work as well. The parents hope the ideals they have cherished would be realized by their children. In fact, the word "children" has almost become a synonym of hope.





Pursuit of Fashion

During the past few years, many new and trendy things have been introduced into Hangzhou. Those particular items which are in vogue in Guangzhou and Shenzhen today would become popular in Hangzhou tomorrow. One wave after another, fashion spreads fast to this city.

Punch-in Time Clock

The clock-in machine first appeared in department stores in this city. It is, I must say, a product of the reform effort. To strengthen management discipline, these clocks have been installed in many factories and other enterprises. They are very widely used in joint venture enterprises and big hotels.



To Catch Up

The quality and designs of furniture in Hangzhou has never previously been so stressed like it is today. Imported sofas, cabinets and dressing-tables incorporating the latest designs have greatly broadened the appreciation of the Hangzhou people. To compete with imported furniture, local furniture factories have quickly improved their own products' designs. To attract customers, department stores set up furniture in home settings. Sign notices reading "No Photography" and "No Sketching" are put up to suggest that those settings are perhaps considered "copyrighted" by these shops.





Craze for Western Suits

It has been years since the Hangzhou people had the chance to put on Western suits. But this year, the craze seems to be more prevalent. Men wear Western suits not only at banquets or on important occasions, but also when going to work, meeting friends, drinking coffee and even jogging.

Many Hangzhou people are also faddishly fond of goods with famous brand names. As long as it is a well-known trademark with new designs, there are always buyers. Surprisingly, suits as expensive as 2,000 yuan can easily be sold out. With such profits to be made no wonder there are so many stalls and shops selling Western suits. (Photo by Ma Yiu Chun)

Imported 24k Gold-Plated Jewelry

It has been almost an ancient tradition in Hangzhou that women wear jewelry. Traditional jewelry made of solid gold and silver are splendid and beautiful, but costly. However, today imported 24k gold-plated jewelry are not expensive. They are fashionable in design, and can be used as decorations on clothes, bags and so on. Prices for such jewelry are reasonable, and ordinary people can afford to buy them. Therefore they sell very well.





A Place of Beauties

Hangzhou has been known for its beautiful girls since ancient times. Today girls pay a great deal of attention to their make-up, dress, hair-do and so on to enhance their natural charms.



Attractive Fashions

Dongpo Road has become a real "Ladies' Street" today. Shops selling fashionable ladies' wear have been veritably mushrooming here. Their colourful display of clothes is a magnet for girls. Clever shop owners have also opened new shops in other busy parts of the city. This shop on Zhongshan Road has a wonderful display of fashionable clothes of the latest design. But they seem so incongruous with the traditional architectural style of the building.



Charming Girls

It is said that Hangzhou girls know how to dress tastefully. It is quite true. For instance, an ordinary batic skirt and a tight cotton blouse, plus a scarf could beautifully deck out an attractive girl. There is no need for adornment such as jewelry or heavy make-up. When a girl dressed like this walks down a street, she would attract many admiring glances.



Middle-Aged Need Cosmetics

Today, many women around 40 years of age go to beauty parlours to have their hair permed, eyebrows painted and even their faces lifted. Housewives are no longer satisfied with the simple dress and hair-do which they arrange at home. They feel a need to beautify themselves with cosmetics in order to go out to enjoy life.



Importance of Family Life

Hangzhou people attach great importance to the family. On the occasions of festivals, people like to go out of the town to the suburbs and outlying areas. But very often it is a whole family which goes out together. Usually however, they are happy to stay at home to enjoy family life.

(Photo by Ma Yiu Chun)

Lanes

Hangzhou has many interesting old lanes. There are, for instance, Hai'er (Children's) Lane where Lu You (1125-1210), a great poet of the Southern Song period, once resided; Jiangyuan (Bean Source Mill) Lane where Lu Xun (1881-1936), one of China's greatest literary figures of modern times, lived; and Daqing Lane, which was named after Daqing, one of China's largest oilfields. The layout of the buildings in those lanes are rather stylistic. Sometimes, there are alleys within lanes; sometimes one lane is in fact similar to one large compound. The latter arrangement of houses has its own advantages. For example, it is a lot easier for people to communicate and to help one another, which is rather difficult for those living in tower blocks. Of course, there are also disadvantages. Because of its density of residents, there is not much space left in such a lane.





Wedding Dresses Proliferate

It was probably the year before last that brides began to wear formal gauze dresses at their wedding ceremony, thus the business of wedding dress rental started. Now auxiliary services of photo-taking and video-recording of the ceremony are also included in the package. It was probably an auspicious day today, four couples held their wedding banquets in the restaurant where I dined. According to local custom, the new couples stood at the entrance to greet guests. After the banquet, relatives and friends would hold a gala party at the home of the newlyweds.



Outside the "Square City"

Old folks in Hangzhou are particularly fond of playing mahjong (locally nicknamed the Square City). Here the mahjong playing is probably too noisy. The boy is so disturbed that he is unable to work out his math problem. He has to get help from his father.

Translated by Wang Mingjie

Hangzhou, known as Paradise on Earth, is also famous for its cuisine, which has developed many interesting and flavourful dishes owing to Hangzhou's favourable location as a land of fish and rice, and the constant improvement of cooking by blending different ways of cooking in both the north and south. As early as 1127, Emperor Gaozong of the Song Dynasty fled the former capital Kaifeng and made his new capital at Hangzhou, which then became a place inhabited by people from all over the country. Since ancient times, Hangzhou has been a gathering place for scholars and businessmen, hence many interesting stories and tales have been associated with some well-known dishes, providing topics for chats after meals, which adds to the atmosphere of dining.

When I toured round the West Lake, I tasted the Southern Song (1127-1279) imperial dishes in Bagualou Restaurant, tried West Lake lotus seed soup on the meadow in the Flower Harbour Park, ordered some Shaoxing wine and several kinds of cold dishes, and had Beggar's Chicken on the gaily-painted pleasure boat on the lake in front of Louwailou Restaurant. There and then, the delicious tastes of the food and the beauty of the sceneries seemed to perfectly complement each other: I was revelling in the enjoyment of earthly dishes in this paradise on earth.

Southern Song Imperial Dishes

I was told that tastes of Zhejiang cuisine fall into two kinds: the refined taste and the popular taste. To have a clear idea of the refined taste of true Zhejiang cuisine, the Southern Song imperial dishes in Bagualou Restaurant are a must.

Starting from the West Lake, we went southward through a tunnel, then arrived at the Bagualou Restaurant situated east of the Bagua (Eight Trigrams) Field on the bank of the Qiantang River. From a distance we saw a sign with the Chinese character 宋 flying high in front of the restaurant. Entering the restaurant, I found an antique atmosphere in the prevailing dark brown colour of the interior: the finely carved beams, the imitations of ancient carved tables and chairs, the nine-dragon pillars, and on the wall the Dongyang wood carving of a famous Northern Song (960-1127) painting *Riverside Scene at the*

Hangzhou Special

Highlights of Hangzhou Cuisine

PHOTOS BY PENG ZHENG

ARTICLE BY CHEN MINGZHAO, JING DIYUN & AN GE



Sitting in the ancient-style Bagualou Restaurant and leisurely savouring Southern Song dishes is a unique pleasure for every lover of good food.



Steamed Soft-Shelled Turtle with Mutton is another well-known Southern Song imperial dish. Its ingredients and way of cooking reflect the blending of southern and northern cuisine.



Fish prepared in Two Ways is a dish coming down to us from the Southern Song imperial family.



The Bagualou Restaurant is situated one kilometre southeast of Bagua Field, on the bank of the Qiantang River. The restaurant is famous for its Southern Song dishes.

Qingming Festival. Outside the ornamentally engraved windows, poplar and willow twigs swayed in the breeze. It is said that the emperors of the Southern Song Dynasty used to have a rest and their meals here after they personally ploughed the Bagua (Eight Trigrams) Field (hence the name Bagualou Restaurant).

The manager of the restaurant is an expert on Southern Song dishes. He talked to us while we sat by the window, drinking tea. He said: "During the 130 years of the Southern Song Dynasty, Hangzhou was its capital and consequently the population grew drastically and business flourished. Then the food catering trade was the largest industry in Hangzhou. At that time many chefs in the former capital Kaifeng and its environs converged on Hangzhou, and the exchange of different ways of cooking at this time developed China's cuisine. This was the underlying foundation for the great proliferation of cuisines during the Ming (1368-1644) and Qing (1644-1911) Dynasties. We have recreated in our restaurant some authentic Southern Song dishes following the recipes recorded in historical documents."

At this moment, our dishes were ready to be served. The blue dinner set was an imitation of the porcelain produced in official kilns in Kaifeng and Hangzhou in the Song Dynasty. The dishes, with fresh-water fish and vegetables as the chief ingredients, were finely prepared. All this showed a light and refined imperial manner. Being a Cantonese, who have a special liking for seafood, I immediately tried the delicious soft-shelled turtle Soup. Actually this dish was called steamed soft-shelled turtle with mutton. After cooking, the meat falls off the bones and the broth becomes thick, while the strong odors of mutton and turtle vanish totally. This dish is a representative sample of the blending of southern and northern flavours. Rich food was in fashion among the elite in ancient China. While in the north, the imperial family

of the Song Dynasty mainly had fat sheep and young pigs as their food. After they moved to the south, their main food became fish and vegetables cooked in northern methods, and the taste was on the light and delicious side. This new style was said to be "southern ingredients cooked in northern methods". Then I tasted other dishes such as mince with asparagus and fish shreds prepared in two ways. They were very delicious as well. And the consummate skill lived up to the standard of an imperial kitchen: the asparagus shreds were thinner than tooth-picks and the white fish shreds were tender. It was said that before shredding, not only the skin and bones of the fish but the blood clots in the flesh must be removed.

Dishes Related to Beautiful West Lake

I remembered when I had West Lake Water Shield (*Brasenia schreberi*) Soup in West Lake Hotel, a breeze swept past, bringing petals of peach blossoms down slowly onto the green meadow by the lake. When I turned to look at the soup, the white chicken, red ham and dark green water shield seemed to form an image resembling a clear and elegant watercolour painting of the West Lake. As soon as I scooped the soup into my mouth, the light, fresh, tender and smooth taste and the refreshing delicate fragrance made me feel like enjoying the fresh air and water from the beautiful West Lake and the surrounding hill—I was in a relieved and calm mood.

Hangzhou Restaurant overlooks the Su Causeway, and the two famous dishes of the restaurant, Dongpo Braised Pork and Aunt Song's Fish Potage have some association with the Su Causeway.

Aunt Song's Fish Potage was originated by a certain Aunt Song, who followed the imperial court from Kaifeng to Hangzhou. She took crucian carp inhabiting the West Lake as the chief ingredient and cooked it with ham, bamboo shoots and mushrooms in chicken soup. When it was done, it looked like crabmeat potage. Later, the Song Emperor Gaozong tasted and enjoyed the potage very much. Gaozong gave Aunt Song a handsome reward and the dish then became famous.

In 1089, when the great poet Su Dongpo was magistrate of Hangzhou, he mobilized more than 200,000 local people to dredge the West Lake. They built a causeway (later it was named after Su) with the dredged lake silt. Such a deed was to the benefit of the people and earned the local people's gratitude. They presented him with a lot of pork and Shaoxing Yellow Wine. Unable to refuse the present, Su Dongpo had the pork and wine sent to the kitchen to make braised pork, with which he wanted to reward the labourers. By mistake, the chefs used the wine to braise the pork only to find that the pork braised in wine smelled even more delicious. It was red in colour, sticky yet not



Feasting on tasty Dongpo Braised Pork on a pleasure boat belonging to the Louwailou Restaurant, you can also appreciate the scenery around the Su Causeway.



Though bearing an unpleasant name, Beggar's Chicken tastes delicious.



The ingredients of Beancurd and Crabmeat are not delicacies as such yet the soup is sweet and tasty.



Taking some local dishes with Shaoxing rice wine at Xizi Guesthouse is a great enjoyment.



Attractive in appearance and light in taste, West Lake Water Shield Soup is also good for the health. It nourishes the throat and lungs and is said to prevent cancer.

greasy. The local people began to braise pork in this way and named the dish Dongpo Braised Pork.

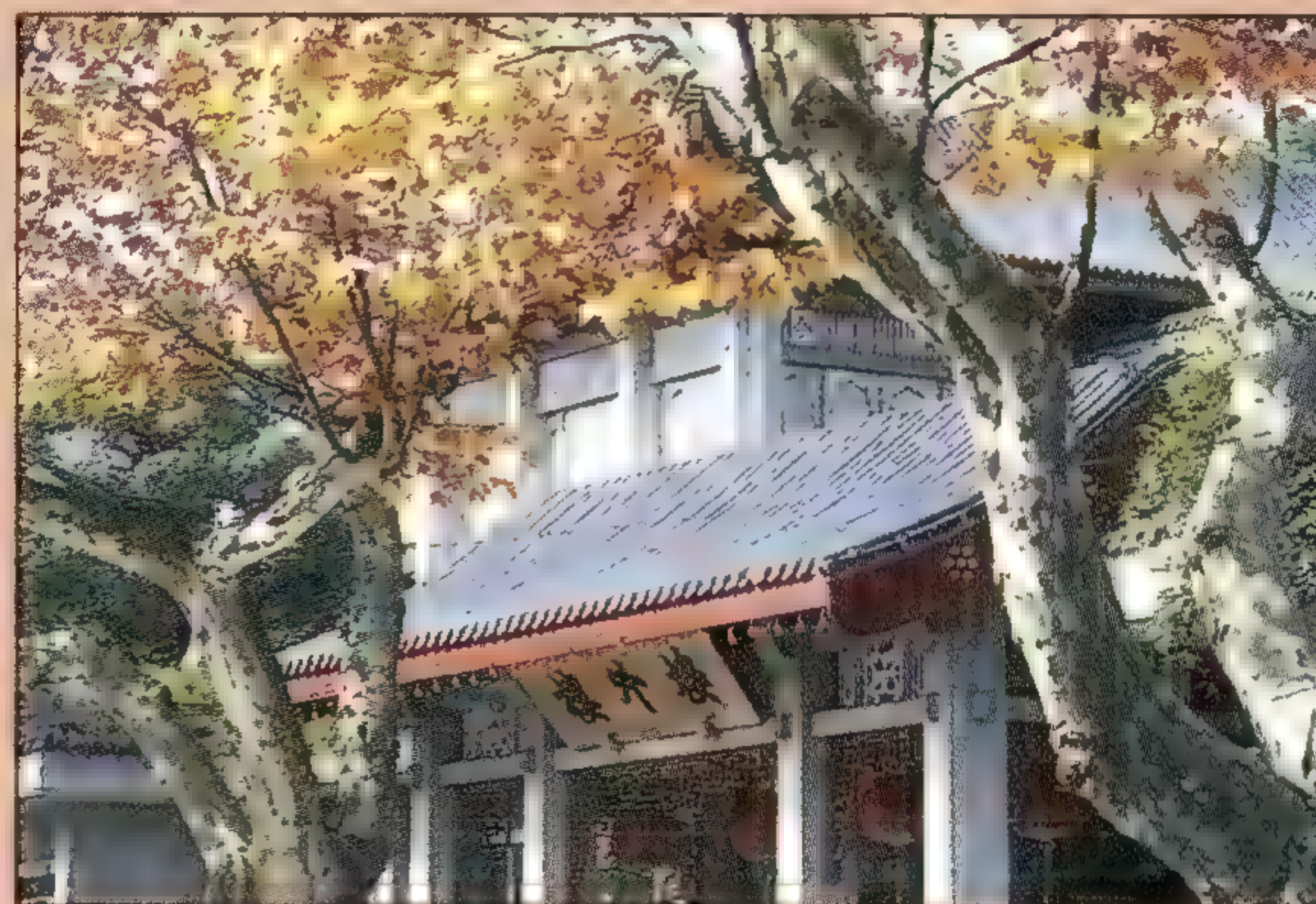
Beggar's Chicken

One cannot talk about Hangzhou cuisine without mentioning Beggar's Chicken. Despite its unpleasant name and way of cooking, it has a special flavour. The story goes like this: Once a beggar found a young chicken. Lacking cooking utensils, he wrapped the chicken in lotus leaves from the West Lake, and then coated it with the lute abandoned by a wine shop. He then cooked it in embers. When it was done, he broke the clay and plucked the chicken. The chicken smelled very fragrant, which attracted many people living in the vicinity. They imitated the way of cooking and later the beggar's style of preparing chicken found its way into local kitchens and even into grand restaurants and banquets. I had Beggar's Chicken on a gaily-painted pleasure boat in the 140-year-old Louwailou Restaurant.

Situated at the foot of Solitary Hill, the restaurant was built in 1848. The name Louwailou (meaning pavilion beyond pavilion) originated from a famous line of a poem which read "there is a higher mountain beyond this mountain, and a more beautiful pavilion beyond this pavilion". The restaurant is facing the lake and surrounded by beautiful scenes. Through the French windows, one can see the green hills, and the vast lake as well as its islands and bridges. In front of the restaurant, there are two gaily-painted pleasure boats. When we had our meals there, the boat sailed quietly and smoothly on the lake. The chef taught us how to break the clay outside the Beggar's Chicken, and then the boat was filled with a delicious smell. The crisp meat of the chicken came off the bones easily and did not get stuck in the teeth. It tasted a bit like roast game.

West Lake Vinegar Carp is also a speciality of the Louwailou Restaurant. The carp is fresh from the West Lake, so the dish tastes even more tender and delicious.

Translated by Chen Jiaji



There is great pleasure eating Hangzhou dishes at the Louwailou Restaurant while enjoying views around the West Lake (by Ma Yiu Chun).



Teahouses became popular in Hangzhou in the Ming Dynasty. Today the Wushan Teahouse in the city's suburbs is a favourite of local people.

Hangzhou Special

Enriching the Mind and Body

Drinking Tea in Hangzhou

PHOTO BY PENG ZHENG ARTICLE BY ZHANG TANGHENG



原本茶經卷上

唐竟陵陸羽撰

六之飲

翼而飛毛而走喙而言此三者俱生於天地間飲啄以沽飲之時義遠矣哉至若救渴飲之呂漿獨憂忿飲之以酒蕩昏寐飲之以茶茶之為飲發乎神農氏聞於魯周公齊有晏嬰漢有揚雄司馬相如吳有韋曜晉有劉琨張載遠祖納謝安左思之徒皆飲焉滂時浸俗盛於國朝兩都并荆巴渝也

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Lu Yu, known as the Sage of Tea, was born in the Tang Dynasty on a tea-producing site. He wrote a famous treatise, the Book of Tea, and often went out by himself in search of tea trees and springs.

Hangzhou, on the northern bank of the Qiantang River, has long been known as a tea producer. Lu Yu (733-804) wrote about tea cultivation in two Hangzhou temples, the Tianzhu and Lingyin, in his noted classic the *Book of Tea*. The Dragon Well Tea in Hangzhou is specially noteworthy. Longjing (Dragon Well) on Fenghuang Ridge is the name of a spring, a temple and a village as well as a kind of tea. As early as between 238 and 250 during the Three Kingdoms period a spring of fine quality water was discovered. Soon, a temple was built close by.

The Dragon Well Tea owes much of its fame to its natural environment. The hilly area with the Dragon Well Village in the north and the Lion Peak and Nine Creeks and Eighteen Gullies in the south sees the hills gradually descending southward, and receives adequate sunshine. This southerly wind brings to the tea plantations the moisture needed by tea plants. Together these factors constitute a highly ideal natural environment for raising tea.



Dragon Well Tea baking has to go through many processes
(by Xie Guanghui).



Farmers busy picking Dragon Well Tea leaves before the Qingming Festival at a tea plantation in Longjing Village.

Eighteen Imperial Tea Plants

China was the first country to make tea a daily drink and its written record of tea drinking dates back over 4,000 years. This custom reached an unprecedented height during the Tang Dynasty (618-907), though it was not until about the Song Dynasty (960-1279) that the Dragon Well Tea began to acquire a reputation. A Song Dynasty monk by the name Bian Cai lived in the Dragon Well Temple in his late years and opened up land to cultivate tea on the hill slopes at the Lion Peak. Discovering the superiority of the tea he grew here, he began to cultivate tea seriously. His old friend, Su Dongpo (1037-1101), a renowned writer, artist, calligrapher and official, when serving as the prefect at Hangzhou, often came up the hill to visit him. The monk always greeted him with Dragon Well Tea. Thus, the quality of the tea began to spread and drinking the tea became more popular.

When the Qing Dynasty Emperor Qianlong (reign dates 1736-1795), on an inspection tour to Hangzhou, sampled the Dragon Well Tea for

the first time, he was said to have commented: "Though the tea seems tasteless, it imparts a comfortable feeling that lingers in the mouth." He believed that the so-called "tastelessness" was paradoxically "the best taste of all". An impromptu imperial investigation revealed that it was leaves from the plants in the garden of a certain Wang from which the emperor's tea was prepared. He immediately issued a decree that the eighteen tea plants in the garden be designated "Imperial Tea Plants" and that all tea leaves from these trees become earmarked for imperial tribute. The emperor's decree and inscription "Imperial Tea Plants" further helped spread the fame of Dragon Well Tea which eventually became one of the four best varieties of tea in China.

Four Unique Features

The leaves picked before Qingming (Pure Brightness), a solar term marking a period beginning in early April, are referred to as the Mingqian Dragon Well Tea and those picked before Guyu (Grain Rain) as Yuqian

Dragon Well Tea. Of these two, the Mingqian Dragon Well Tea is considered the better. A day before the Qingming Festival, I came to the Dragon Well Village in the Lion Peak Hills in the midst of spring rain and saw how tea growers picked what is referred to as the "noblest of all tea". The area with the Lion Peak as the centre that radiates for 2.3 kilometres in all directions is considered the real home of Dragon Well Tea.

At the entrance of the village, I ran into a village housewife who invited me to her house to taste tea and buy tea from her. At the entrance of the house, I saw several bamboo baskets for drying the tea and an electric pot for baking the tea.

Soon after I sat down, the hostess brought me a teapot with newly brewed Dragon Well Tea. This tea is characterized by four unique features: green colour, strong aroma, rich taste and beautiful shape of the leaves. The green colour has a slight tinge of yellow and has long been described as the "golden sprouts" by poets and scholars. The tea is said to have a greater content of amino acid, catechin, Vitamin C and chlorophyll than other kinds of tea. In the past, Dragon Well Tea was divided into four different types named after places where it was produced: Lion Peak, Longjing (Dragon Well), Yunqi (Clouds Lingering) and Hupao (Tiger Spring). Nowadays it is divided into Lion Peak Dragon Well Tea, West Lake Dragon Well Tea and Meijiawu Dragon Well Tea. Each of these three categories are classified into special grades numbered one to ten.

Processing Mingqian Dragon Well Tea: A Time Consuming Task

To prepare Mingqian Dragon Well Tea, leaves must be picked within two to three days around the Qingming Festival when sprouts have just come out. I learned from tea farmers that to produce a half kilogramme of this tea, it takes ten tea-pickers to work a whole day. Yuqian Dragon Well leaves have to be picked before the Grain Rain which comes fifteen days later. As a result, the yield of both varieties can never be high.

Apart from its small output, Dragon Well Tea also requires special curing techniques, another feature that makes it highly sought after. First, the newly-picked tender leaves have to be dried in a cool and damp spot for three to four hours, to remove part of the water content. Then the leaves are dried and baked in a pot for thirty minutes with different movements of the hand. Each time no more than 200 grammes can be



*Enjoying a pot of fragrant tea serenaded by a pet bird
(by Xie Guanghui)*



Tea ritual demonstrated at Tiantai Mountain



Tea sets and tea leaves used at the First Hangzhou Tea Culture Festival (by Yu Zhixin)

baked. All in all, it takes six to seven hours to bake 500 grammes of finished tea. The amount of green leaves needed varies from grade to grade with a kilogramme of special grade Dragon Well Tea taking something between 60,000 to 70,000 tender leaves.

Dragon Well Tea leaves take the shape of sparrow tongues and are flat, smooth and shiny thanks to Qianlong, some say. It is said that when Emperor Qianlong came to Hangzhou and after he enjoyed some Dragon Well Tea, while in a pleasant mood he picked a few leaves and put them inside a book. Back in the capital, Beijing, he one day reminisced and really missed the special refreshing taste of the tea. He then ordered that the leaves brought to him as tribute should be as flat as those in the book. Tea farmers, worried by the imperial order, devised a special way of baking whereby they pressed the leaves against the baking pot so that the leaves would fit in the shape required by the supreme ruler. This method has been handed down to this day as a special technique for processing Dragon Well Tea.



Drinking tea under an umbrella in the rain demonstrates the attraction of tea (by Xie Guanghui).



Playing chess over a cup of tea — a leisurely way to while away the time



Many customers coming to Wushan to take tea bring along a thermos bottle.

Brewing the Tea Hangzhou Style

Logically enough, people in Hangzhou not only grow tea but like to drink tea as well. Their method of making the tea is also unique. Unlike tea drinkers in other places who prefer the use of ceramic teapots, here people would rather use glass cups. After putting the leaves in the cup, they fill the cup with hot water half to its capacity and do not cover the cup with any lid. It is only when the leaves have expanded a few minutes later that they fill the cup completely. They explained that this way they are able to bring out the best taste and aroma of the tea. However, if the cup is filled up at one go and then is covered up with a lid, the tea leaves will turn yellow. To make tea they never use water at boiling temperature but let water cool off to 80°C. These measures guarantee the best result of brewing tea. I also learned that those Hangzhou residents who are particular about their tea will go out of their way by taking a special trip to the Tiger Spring to get mineral water for preparing tea at home. They believe Dragon Well Tea brewed with Tiger Spring water offers a particularly good fragrance and refreshing flavour.

To cater for the needs of Hangzhou people, the city has many teahouses such as the Home of Tea Drinkers at the Lingyin Temple, the Dragon Well Tea Hall and the Tiger Spring Teahouse, to name just a few. However, the teahouse at Wushan Hill is by far the most attractive place for drinking tea. One early morning, I went to this place which is always graced by a large number of patrons. There is a panoramic view of the city and the West Lake from Wushan Hill.

In the open-air teahouse built on a terrace which used to support the City God Temple, most of the customers were old people. They sat on the ground in small groups with their own thermos flasks. While sipping their tea, some were enjoying the singing of the birds. In addition to avian activities some were practising Chinese martial arts, while others were engaged in chess games, and yet others were taking a stroll in the woods and among rocks. They were certainly having a wonderful time.

Whatever they did, they did it between intervals of cups of tea. Near noon time, they more or less finished their tea and began to leave for home.

Chinese Tea Ceremonies

It is no coincidence that the recently completed Chinese Tea museum was built in the tea groves at the Twin Peak Village in Hangzhou. The following factors make the choice of the museum's location appropriate: Hangzhou is the home of the famous Dragon Well Tea; Zhejiang, the province with Hangzhou as the capital, is one of the major tea producers in China; and Lu Yu, who created China's first monograph on tea and who made an in-depth study of the tea and spring water resources in Zhejiang, used to live in the province. With a floor space of 3,500 square metres the museum includes several buildings. Building I houses five display halls introducing respectively the history, production, tea customs and samples of outstanding tea. When I was there, the First International Tea Festival was being held.

Of the many activities staged at the festival, the tea-drinking ceremonies hosted by China and Japan were undoubtedly major events. Chinese tea-drinking ceremony emphasizes a simple and unpretentious execution and strives for a sense of grace, harmony and honour. The performer was a Chinese girl wearing a traditional *qipao* long dress. In carefully measured steps, she went up to a tea table, carefully wiped the tea set, and took out several varieties of tea for guests to examine and choose from. With the help of her assistant, she then brewed tea, then she steadily, forcefully and rhythmically raised and lowered her teapot and delivered the brewed tea to the guests. I took a close look at the cup of tea I received and found that the leaves either floating or sinking to the



Tea sets, modern copies of Guan porcelain from the Southern Song official kilns, are as exquisite as the original.



The Tea Competition painted by Zhao Mengfu of the Yuan Dynasty. Tea competitions were a game in vogue in the Song Dynasty and it is believed that even emperors took delight in them.



Tea can be prepared in a big teapot or a small one, depending on what kind of tea leaves are used.

bottom of the glass cup resembled flower petals. A refreshing aroma evaporated from the cup in the form of curling hot steam. The tea itself tasted fantastic! No wonder some say that it is a great treasure to have good tea and know how to enjoy it.

Zhejiang Province can, in a sense, claim to be the place of origin for Japanese tea ceremony. During the Tang and Song Dynasties, Japanese monks studied Buddhism at the nearby Tiantai and Jingshan Temples. After returning to their homeland, they not only propagated Buddhism but also spread Chinese tea drinking customs, eventually giving rise to an indigenous Japanese version of the tea ceremony. Today, the major difference between Chinese and Japanese tea ceremonies is that Japanese performers give greater attention to etiquette in their technique. In addition to striving for the spirit of harmony and honour, their movements emphasize purity and quietude.

Elegance and Variety of Tea Sets

In his work the *Book of Tea*, Lu Yu recorded twenty-four types of tea sets. By the Song Dynasty, greater attention was being paid not only to



Tea shops with big signs on their whitewashed walls are a common sight along the highway leading to Longjing Village.



Hupao Spring is one of three famous springs at the West Lake and is claimed to be the best source of water for making Dragon Well Tea.



The tea pavilion at Liuzhuang on the shore of the West Lake is an idyllic locale for taking tea.

the function but also the shape, quality and material used in tea sets. This paralleled the development of ceramics technology in China. One of the most favourable tea sets was glazed in black for achieving a harmonious combination of the black tea set itself with light-coloured tea. The method of making tea had changed by the Ming (1368-1644) and Qing (1644-1911) Dynasties and the use of teapots became more widespread. To put it briefly, the importance of tea sets grew as Chinese people became more and more addicted, as it were, to tea. An essential condition for drinking good tea is a fine quality tea set.

Perhaps precisely because of this the tea museum has a hall devoted to tea sets from the various dynastic periods. They range from large to small with a bowl as the earliest item. Unearthed along the Yangtse River, it dates back to the early days of the Tang Dynasty more than a thousand years ago. The bowl has two characters "tea bowl" at its bottom. Red clay teapots of the Ming and Qing periods are in all sizes and shapes, noted for their elegance, unique shapes, varied looks and special implications. It is apparent that during the time tea sets not only were used to serve tea but were also *objets d'art*.

The Hall of the History of Tea is also a must for visitors. A rich collection including a painting entitled *Tea Drinking in the Tang Dynasty*, Song Dynasty stone carvings on paying tea as a tribute, a replica of the *Book of Tea*, and tea samples from the Forbidden City vividly explain and illustrate the development of tea culture in China. My visit, apart from offering a chance to enjoy the famous excellent tea, also brought me face to face with the history of Chinese tea, an important facet of Chinese culture. It was an experience which enriched the mind as well as satisfied the body.

Translated by Huang Youyi

The bronze statue of Shennong in the Tea Art Museum. Shennong is said to have been the discoverer and first user of tea leaves some four to five thousand years ago.



Hangzhou Special

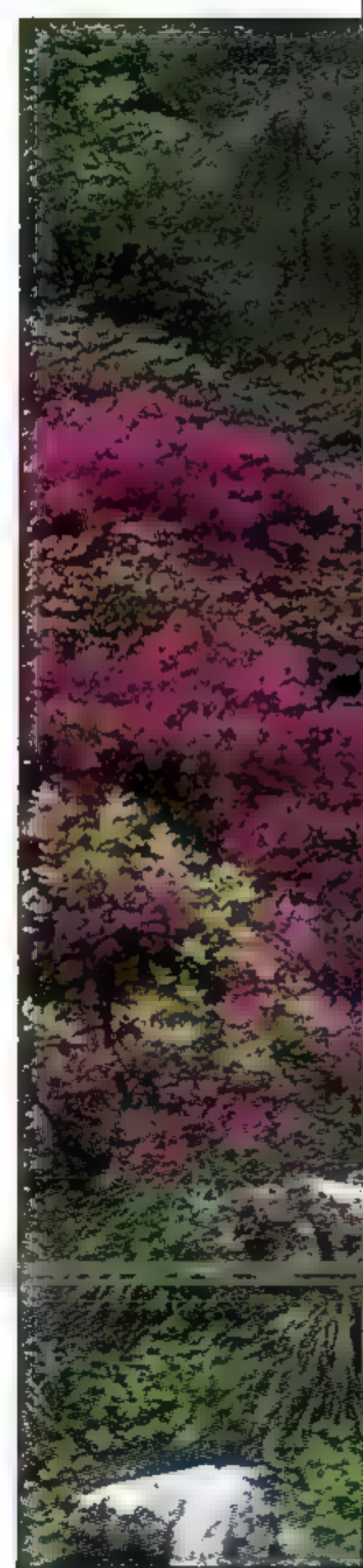
Xiling Seal Engravers' Society

PHOTOS BY PENG ZHENG
ARTICLE BY GAO YE & CHEN MINGZHAO



Full view of the Xiling Seal Engravers' Society engraved on the Wall (by Ma Yiu Chun).

Members of the Xiling Seal Engravers' Society and seal engravers from all part of the country gather together to discuss their art at the Qingming and Double-Ninth Festivals every year.





In old China, seals played the role of today's signatures. Whenever an artist completed a painting, he would put his seal to it. The seal was engraved either with the artist's real name or with his pseudonym. Quite often the artist would affix a few meaningful "extra seals" to his paintings. Though small in size, each of the seals was a work of art in itself. How to stylistically write the characters, where to leave blank spaces, how to arrange the characters and how to execute the required engraving, all demanded superlative technical skill. A seal carved by a renowned artist is an art work beloved by the connoisseur. Seal engraving became more popular in China with the spread of literacy at the end of the Qing Dynasty and at the beginning of the Republic. In 1904 China's first seal engravers' organization — the Xiling Seal Engravers' Society — was established in Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province, thus, it has now been in existence for several decades. Out of admiration for this famous society, I paid a special visit to it soon after I arrived in Hangzhou.

The Xiling Seal Engravers' Society is located on the western side of Zhongshan Park on Gushan Hill in the West Lake. Here are numerous pavilions and towers, including a stone house containing stelae of Eastern Han and other dynasties. There are also mountain pools, and lush green trees and plants. Although many people come to visit every day, it is still quiet and secluded. The park itself was once part of the imperial residential grounds.

After going through a full-moon gate I saw a lotus pond, behind which were two ancient buildings hidden among trees and bamboo; one is known as the Bamboo Pavilion and the other as the Cypress Pavilion. It is said that the Cypress Pavilion was built by a monk during the Song Dynasty (960-1279). According to legend, in the Northern and Southern Dynasties (420-589), an ancient cypress tree grew here. After the tree died, its timber became as solid as diamond and produced a sonorous sound when hit. Later, when the pavilion was built, it was named after the tree. As I went past the Cypress Pavilion, a simple and unsophisticated stone archway came into view. Situated on a hilltop, it bears the inscription "The Xiling Seal Engravers' Society".

The name "Xiling" originated in the early Qing Dynasty. At that time the eight artists of Hangzhou, Ding Jing, Huang Yi, Xi Gang, Jiang Ren, Chen Hongshou, Chen Yuzhong, Zhao Zhishen and Qian Song, all of them very skilled in seal engraving, formed a distinctive artistic style. They were collectively known as "The Xiling Eight Masters" or "The Zhejiang School". Under their influence, it became very fashionable among artists in Zhejiang to study inscriptions on ancient

bronzes and stone tablets. During the Guangxu Period of the Qing Dynasty, Hangzhou seal engravers would often gather in the Shufeng Pavilion on Gushan Hill to discuss the Six Categories of Chinese Characters and the art of seal cutting. In the thirtieth year (1904) of the Guangxu Period, Hangzhou seal engravers such as Ding Ren and Wu Yin would also come to study seal engraving on Gushan. They bought the land beside the Shufeng Pavilion and then built a hall for engravers. Nine years later the Xiling Seal Engravers' Society was formally established, thus named as the hall was close to the Xiling Bridge. The Society's first president was Wu Changshuo, a famous painter and seal engraver at the end of the Qing Dynasty, and its present president is Sha Menghai, a renowned Zhejiang calligrapher.

Inside the Guanle Pavilion is the Wu Changshuo Memorial Hall with a bronze bust of the great master standing in front of it. The walls of the hall are hung with Wu Changshuo's paintings and calligraphical works, among which the most attractive one is the Inscriptions on Drum-Shaped Stone Blocks of the Warring States Period (475-221 B.C.). His vigorous calligraphy and his unique

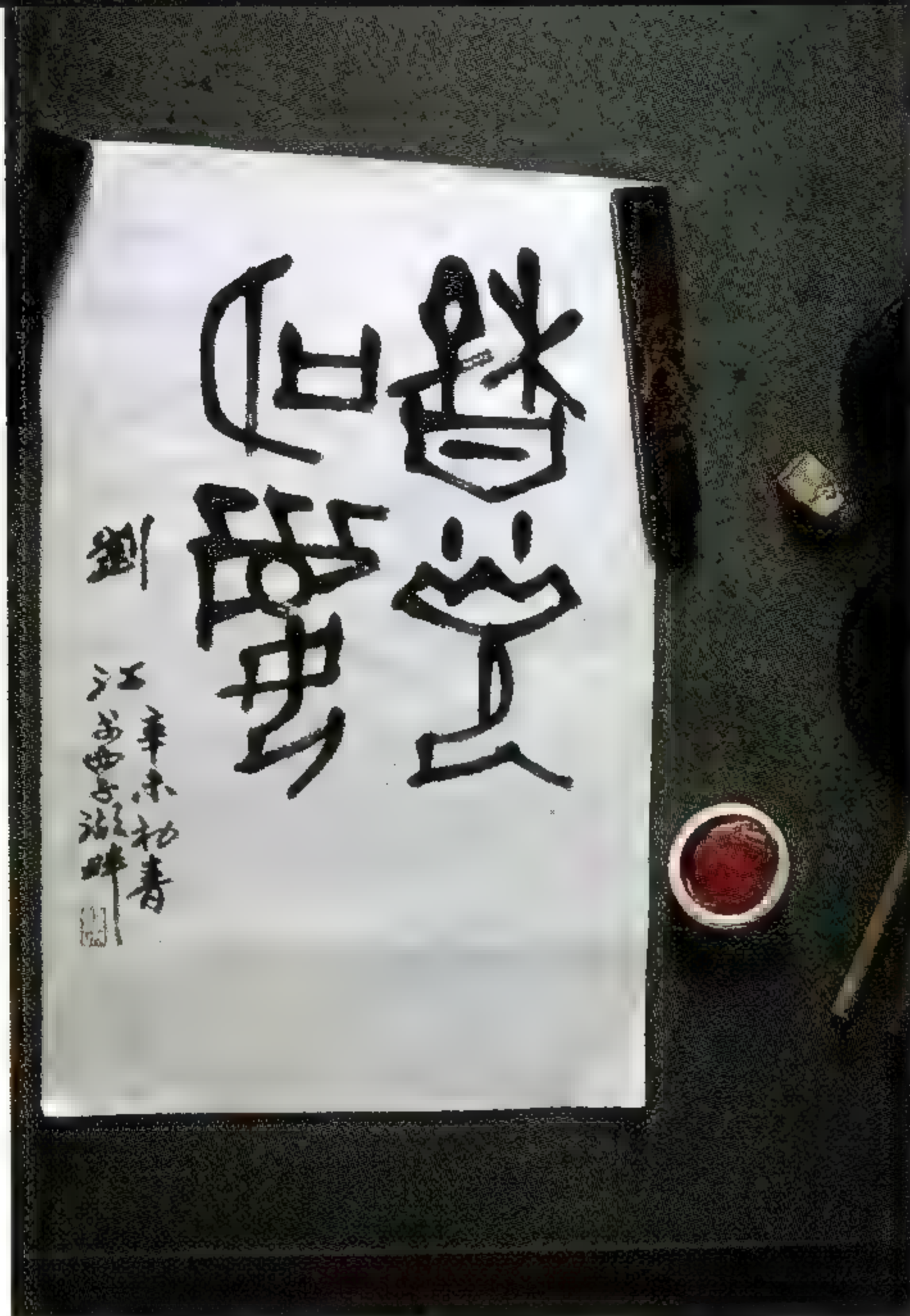


Bronze statue of Wu Changshuo at his memorial hall (by Gu Caikang)

◀ **Gushan — a quiet and secluded place with historical sites galore provides an inspirational environment for seal engravers.**



Shoushan Stone from Shoushan in Minhou County, Fujian Province is the second most popular material used for seal engraving (by Chu Xiaoqing).



"A Sunlit and Enchanting Scene in Spring" — an inscription written by a member of the Xiling Seal Engravers' Society



Meticulous workmanship is another critical element in seal engraving beside specialized skills.

seal are very impressive. Wu Changshuo was renowned for his poetry, calligraphy, painting and seal engraving, which were known as the "Four Wonders". He was particularly proficient in seal engraving. Not only did he cut seals, he also tracked down the origin of seal engraving and studied the different kinds of seals and engravings handed down from the Qing (221-270 B.C.) and Han (206 B.C.-A.D. 220) Dynasties, thus creating a style of his own inspired by the ancients. His striving after perfection became the tradition of the Xiling Seal Engravers' Society.

After leaving the Guanle Pavilion I came to Sizhao Tower sitting at the top of a precipice. The tower faces the lake and mountain and is very quiet. It struck me as an ideal place for composing poems and painting and engraving seals. Since its founding, the Xiling Seal Engravers' Society has made it its aim to establish rules and attract talent in order to preserve seal engravings as well as study the inscriptions on ancient bronzes and stone tablets. Guided by this principle many talents have appeared over the past several decades. Today, every year at the Qingming Festival in

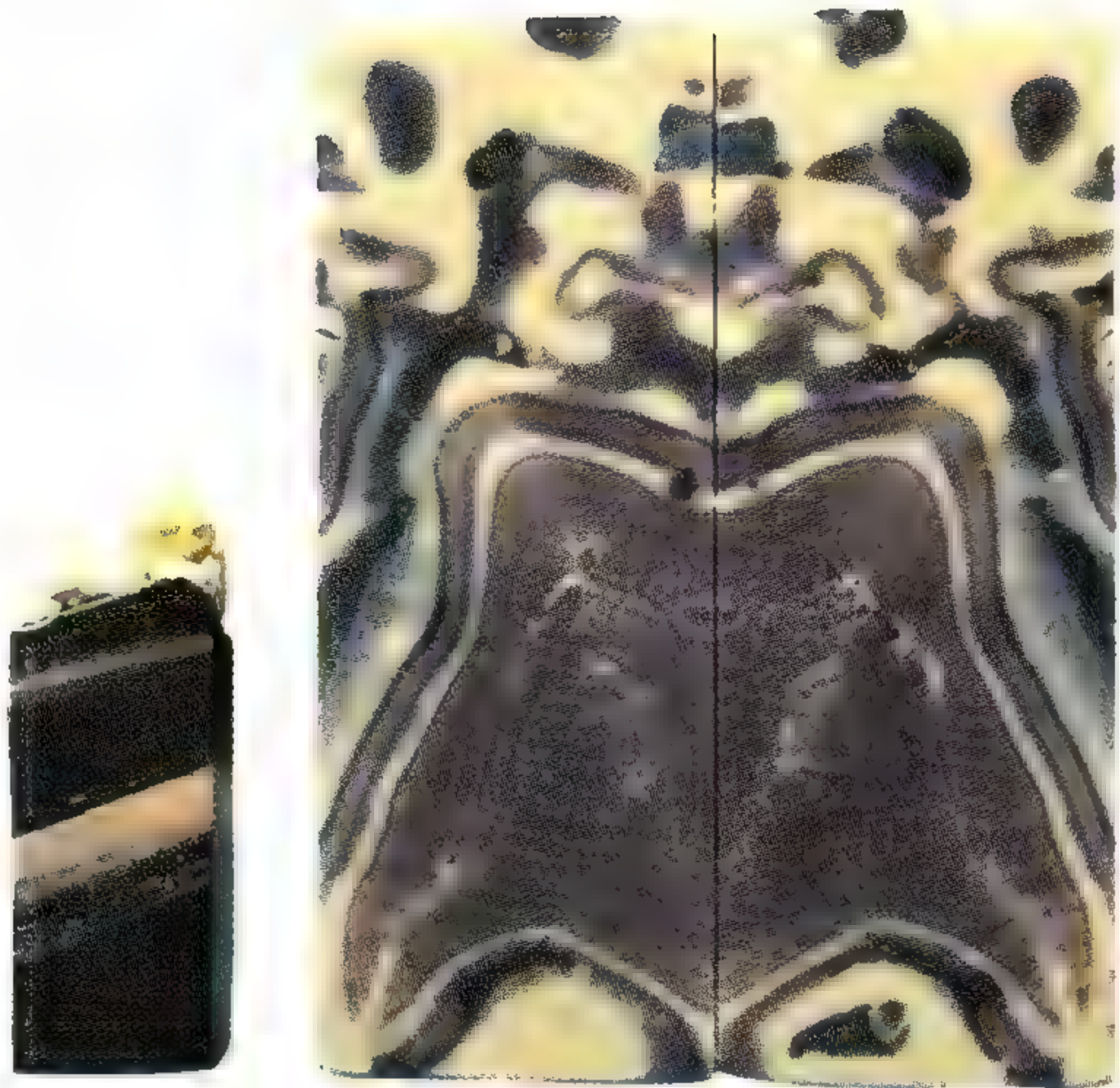
April and Double-Ninth Festival in October, seal engravers from all parts of the country come here to display their new works and exchange experiences. Famous artists such as Pan Tianshou, Fu Baoshi, Cheng Shifa and Chen Congzhou also joined the society, although seal engraving was not their profession.

Since ancient times Qingtian Stone, Shoushan Stone and Changhua Stone have been the best-known materials used for seal





Inscriptions rendered in even strokes and with distinctive signatures



Qingtian Stone produced in Qingtian, Zhejiang Province, has veins with a regular pattern inside them (by Chu Xiaoqing).

engraving. Qingtian Stone produced in Qingtian in Zhejiang is rich in colour and lustrous and has many varieties. Of these, Baiguodong, Lanhuadong and Fengmendong are the best in quality. The Baiguodong seals housed in the collection of the Xiling Seal Engravers' Society are the colour of ginkgo, light blue and pale yellow. The seals carved out of Lanhuadong Stone are the colour of tender orchid leaves, with an even flawless texture. The Fengmendong seals are the best in terms of rich veins, which may be yellow, white, blue or green.

There is also a transparent kind of seal. Below the surface one can see the veins in-

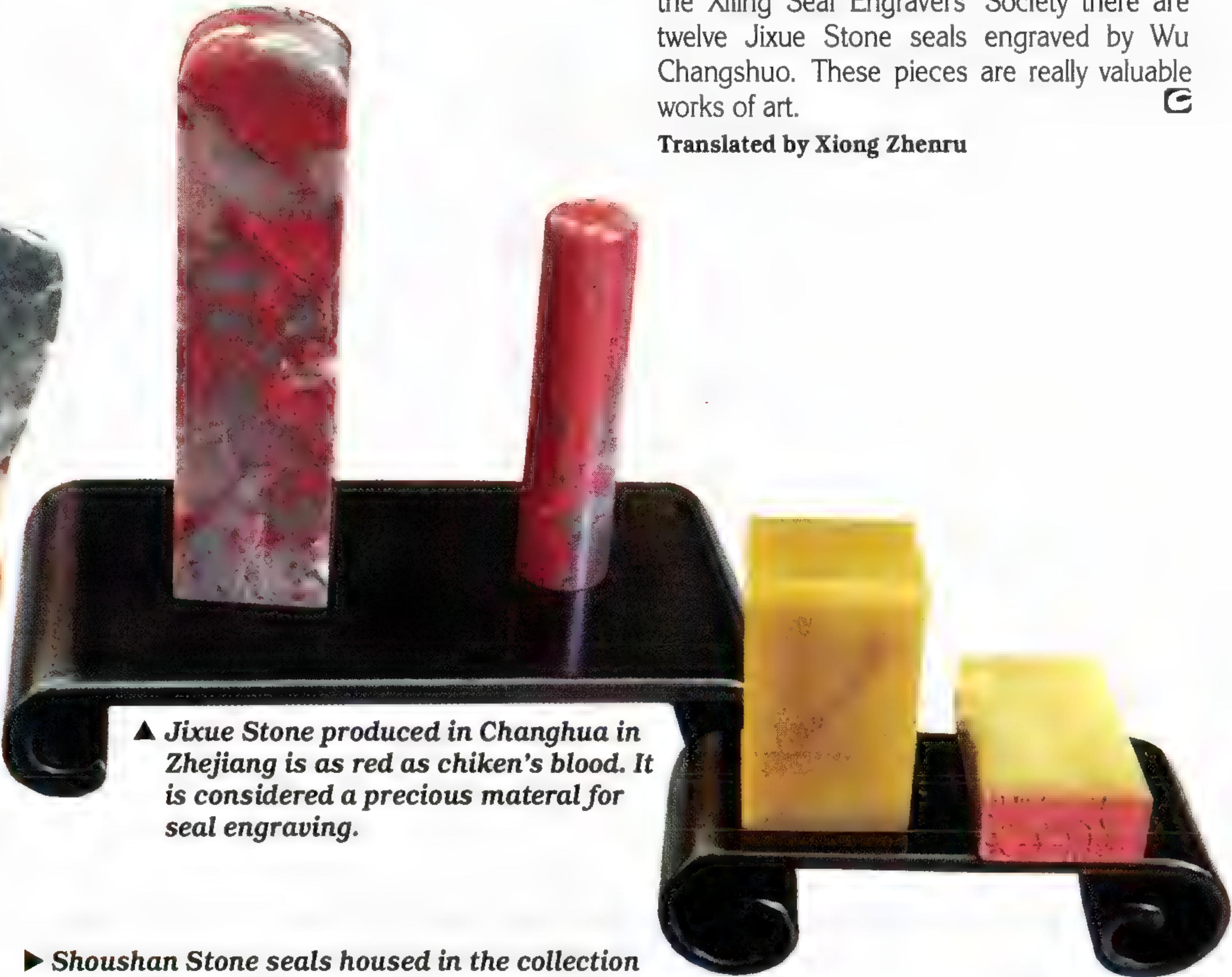
side. The total impression is like filagree. This seal is carved from the Tianhuangdong variety of Shoushan Stone — the second largest kind of material used for seal engraving. Shoushan Stone is found in Shoushan in Minhou County, Fujian Province. In the past there was a saying: "One ounce of Tianhuangdong Stone is worth two ounces of gold." By the end of the Ming Dynasty the stone in the quarry was exhausted. The Tianhuangdong Stone seal in the collection of the Xiling Seal Engravers' Society greatly intrigued me.

The seals made of Jixue Stone are as red as chicken's blood, hence the name. Jixue Stone is a natural precious stone found at Changhua in Zhejiang. It is very difficult to extract. The exploitation of this third most popular seal material began in the early Ming Dynasty. When this precious stone was presented as a tribute to the emperor, it became a treasure in the collection of the imperial court, and those who presented the stone were even granted such titles as "Jade Officials". According to connoisseurs, top-quality Jixue Stone is even more valuable than Tianhuang Stone. In the collection of the Xiling Seal Engravers' Society there are twelve Jixue Stone seals engraved by Wu Changshuo. These pieces are really valuable works of art.

Translated by Xiong Zhenru



Valuable seals housed in the collection of the Xiling Seal Engravers' Society



▲ Jixue Stone produced in Changhua in Zhejiang is as red as chicken's blood. It is considered a precious material for seal engraving.

► Shoushan Stone seals housed in the collection of the Xiling Seal Engravers' Society

Tourist Attractions Centring Around the West Lake

ARTICLE BY AI SHAN

Hangzhou, one of the six ancient capitals in Chinese history, is known as the "Paradise on Earth" because of its picturesque environment epitomized by the West Lake. Embraced by mountains on three sides in Hangzhou's western suburbs the West Lake is famous for its charming scenery. In addition to many historical sites, the area boasts sixty scenic spots colourfully grouped together in aggregates such as the "Ten Views of the West Lake" and the "New Ten Scenic Spots".

Listening to Orioles Singing in the Waving Willows

Lying on the east bank of the West Lake it was once an imperial garden named Jujing (Scenery Assembly) Garden. Flanked by poplars, willows and peach trees, it is one of the original Ten Views.

Last Snow on the Broken Bridge

Duanqiao (Broken Bridge) is the starting point of the Bai Causeway. In winter when the drifted snow begins to thaw, the bridge looks like a broken one from a distance, hence the name the Broken Bridge. This is one of the settings of the mythological story *The White Snake*, a love story about a white snake who turns into a charming beautiful girl and meets a young man named Xu Xian.

Autumn Moon Over the Calm Lake

At the southeastern corner of Gushan Hill is a terrace as high as the surface of the lake waters on three sides. A moonlight scene here gives one intriguing enjoyment more so at the full moon in the Mid-Autumn Festival.

Three Pools Mirroring the Moon

Also known as Lesser Yingzhou, it is on one of the three islets and the best scene on the West Lake. The island is an artificial one, dating back to 1607. To the south of this islet there emerge three small stone stupas 90 metres offshore. Each ball-shaped body of the stupas has five small holes on it. It is said that when the moon casts its light on the stupas, each has three reflections on the waters.

Lotus Flowers Swaying in Guyuan Garden

Located to the northwest corner of the Kuahong (Spanning Rainbow) Bridge on the Su Causeway, the site was originally a distillery making wine for the imperial court. It is one of the Ten Views.

Yue Fei's Temple and Tomb

Both are located at the foot of the Qixia Bridge. First built in 1221, Yue Fei's Temple

houses the seated statue of Yue Fei (1103-1142), stele carved with his poems and memorials to the throne in his own writing. On the right side of the temple is his tomb, opposite which are the cast iron figures of Qin Hui, the treacherous minister of the Southern Song who framed Yue Fei and had him executed, and Qin's wife on their knees.

Lingyin Temple

Located at the foot of Mount Lingyin, it is one of China's ten famous temples of the Chan sect with a history of 1,600 years. The 9.1-metre-high statue of Sakyamuni in the Mahavira Hall is carved from twenty-four pieces of sandalwood, 24.8 metres in height. It is the largest wood gilded statue of the Buddha in the sitting position in China. Two octagonal nine-tiered stone pagodas from the tenth century stand in front of the hall.

Watching Goldfish at Flower Harbour

This site, comprised of the Peony Garden, the Yule (Fish Amusement) Garden and Huagang (Flower Harbour), is set by the Dingxiang Bridge at the Su Causeway. Over ten thousand ornamental carp and goldfish are raised in the Red Fish Pond at the Fish Amusement Garden. It is one of the Ten Views of the West Lake.


Flying Clouds at Yuhuang Hill

Lying to the south of the West Lake the Yuhuang (Jade Emperor) Hill is a scenic spot overlooking the ruins of the Bagua (Eight Trigrams) Field of the Southern Song Dynasty, which are believed to be tilled by the emperor personally to worship the God of Agriculture.

Evening Chimes at Nanping Hill

The name of this view indicates the chimes from a big bell in the Jingci (Purity and Benevolence) Temple at the foot of Nanping Hill. Now one can hear the chimes at 4:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. Jingci Temple itself dates back to 954. The Mahavira Hall in the middle was rebuilt in 1960.

Mist-Shrouded Trees at Nine Creeks

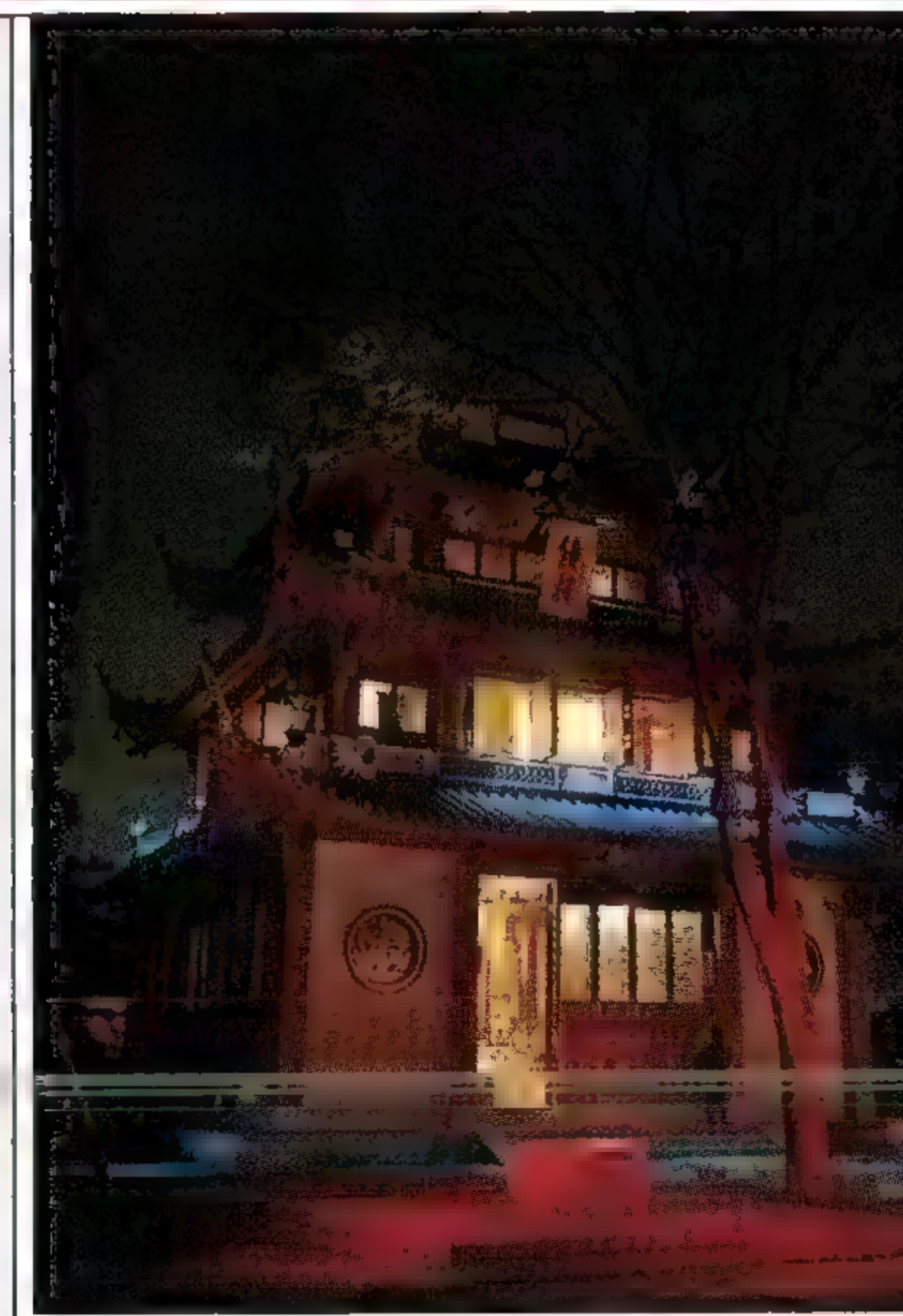
Within the section from Longjing (Dragon Well) Village to the bank of the Qiantang River, there are numerous gullies formed by nine creeks, hence the name Nine Creeks and Eighteen Gullies. The trees on the way are often covered by mist. It is one of the Ten New Scenic Spots of the West Lake. 

Translated by K. V. Ku

Su Causeway (by Wang Jinqiu)



Lingyin Temple (by Peng Zhenge)



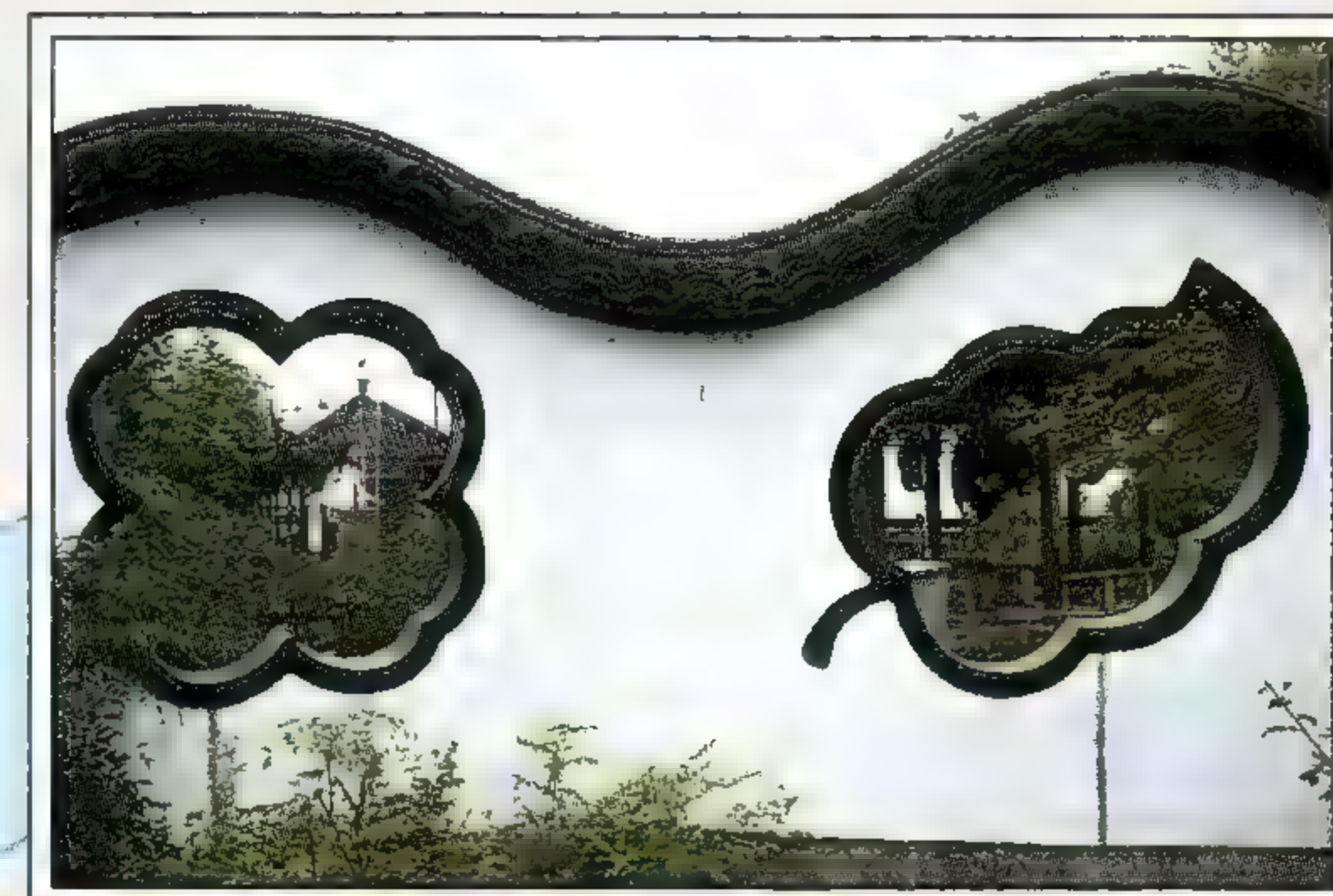
Evening Chimes at Nanping Hill
(by Ren Jing)

*Pleasure boat for the
West Lake cruise (by Ma Yiu Chun).*

Baochu Pagoda (by Wang Jinqiu)



Lesser Yingzhou (by Xing Dongwen)



*Jujing (Scenery
Assembly) Garden
(by Peng Zheng)*



Bagua (Eight Trigrams) Field (by Ren Jing)



*Three Pools Mirroring the Moon
(by Zheng Congli)*



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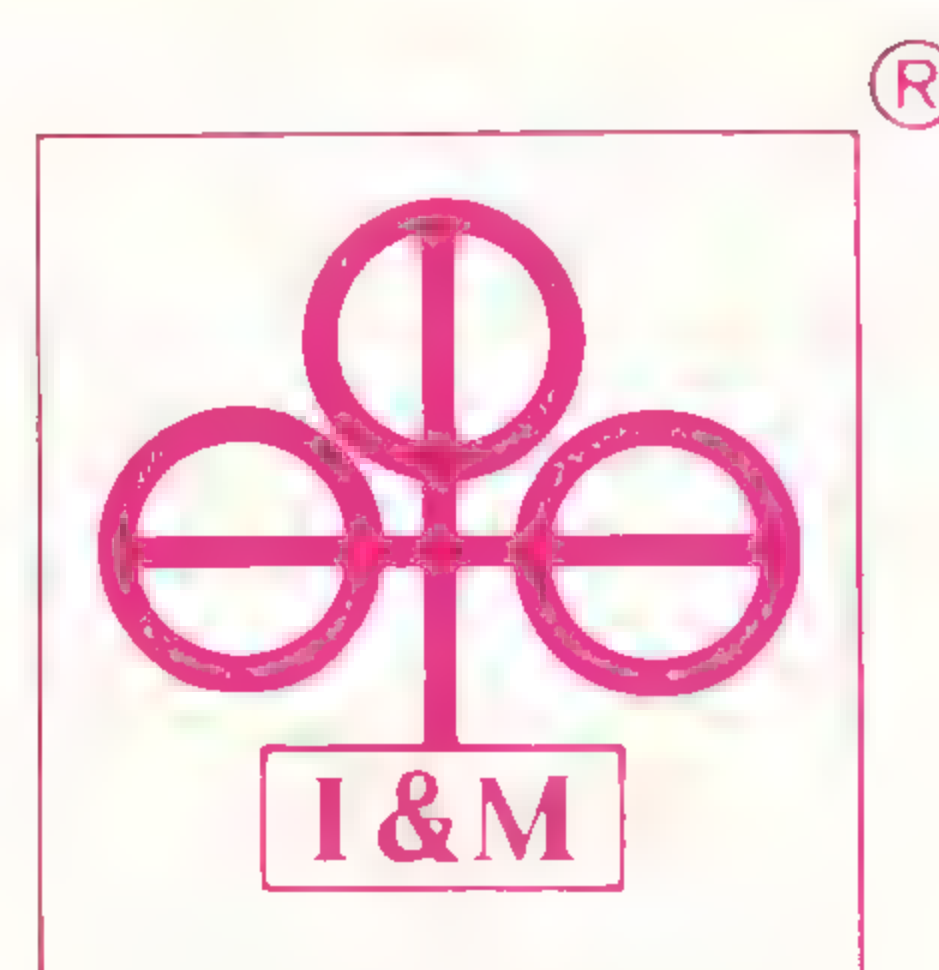
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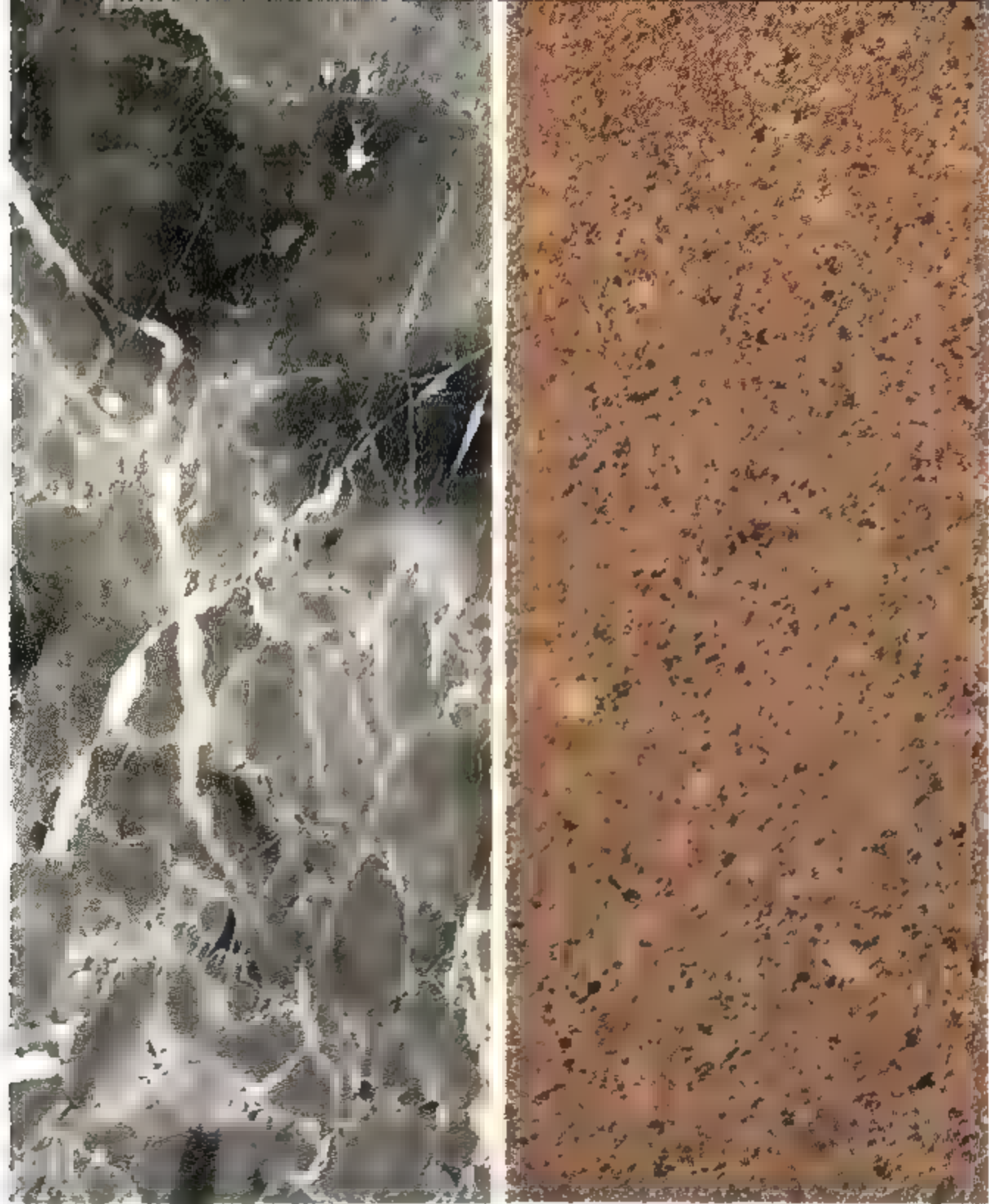
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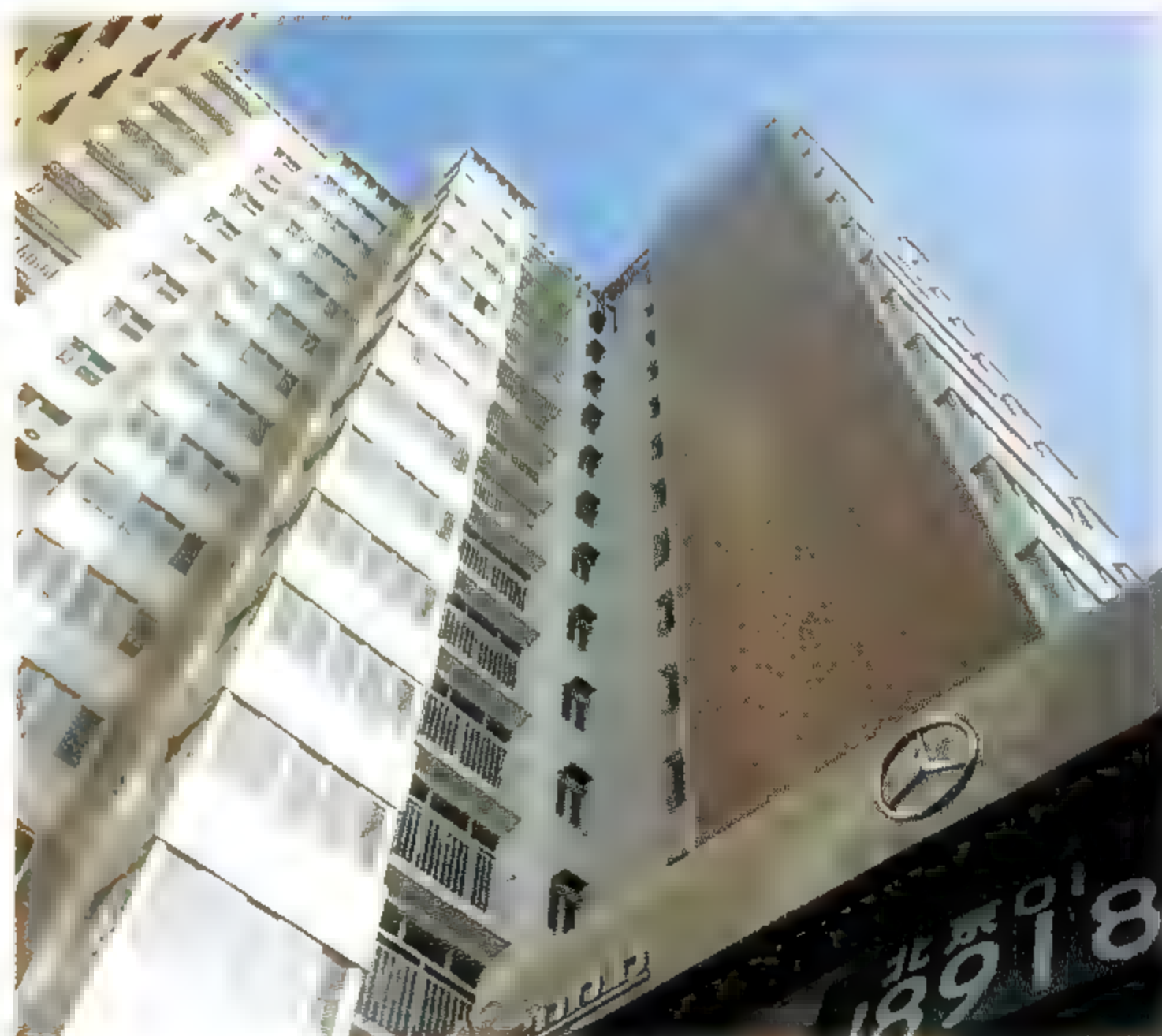
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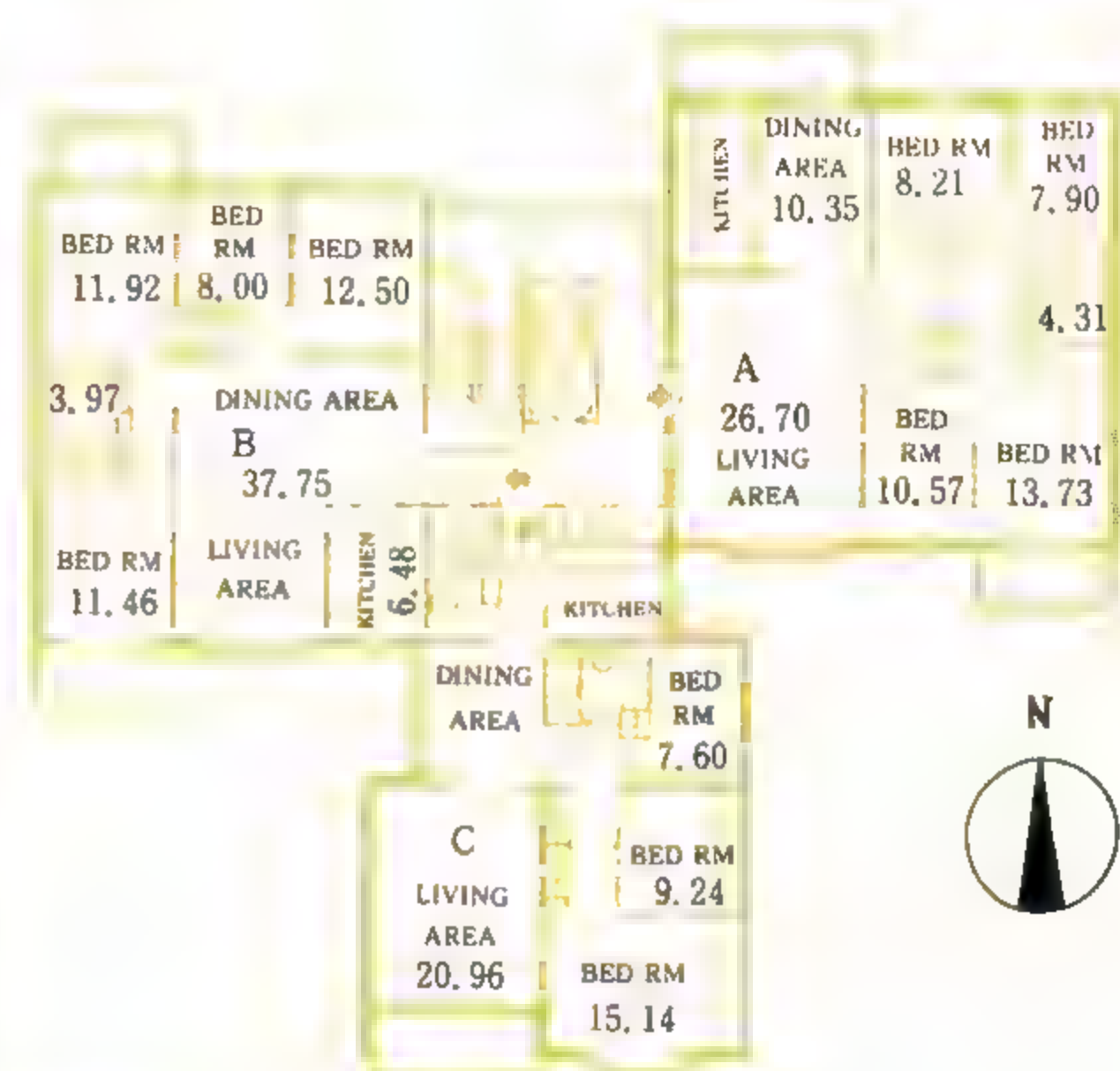
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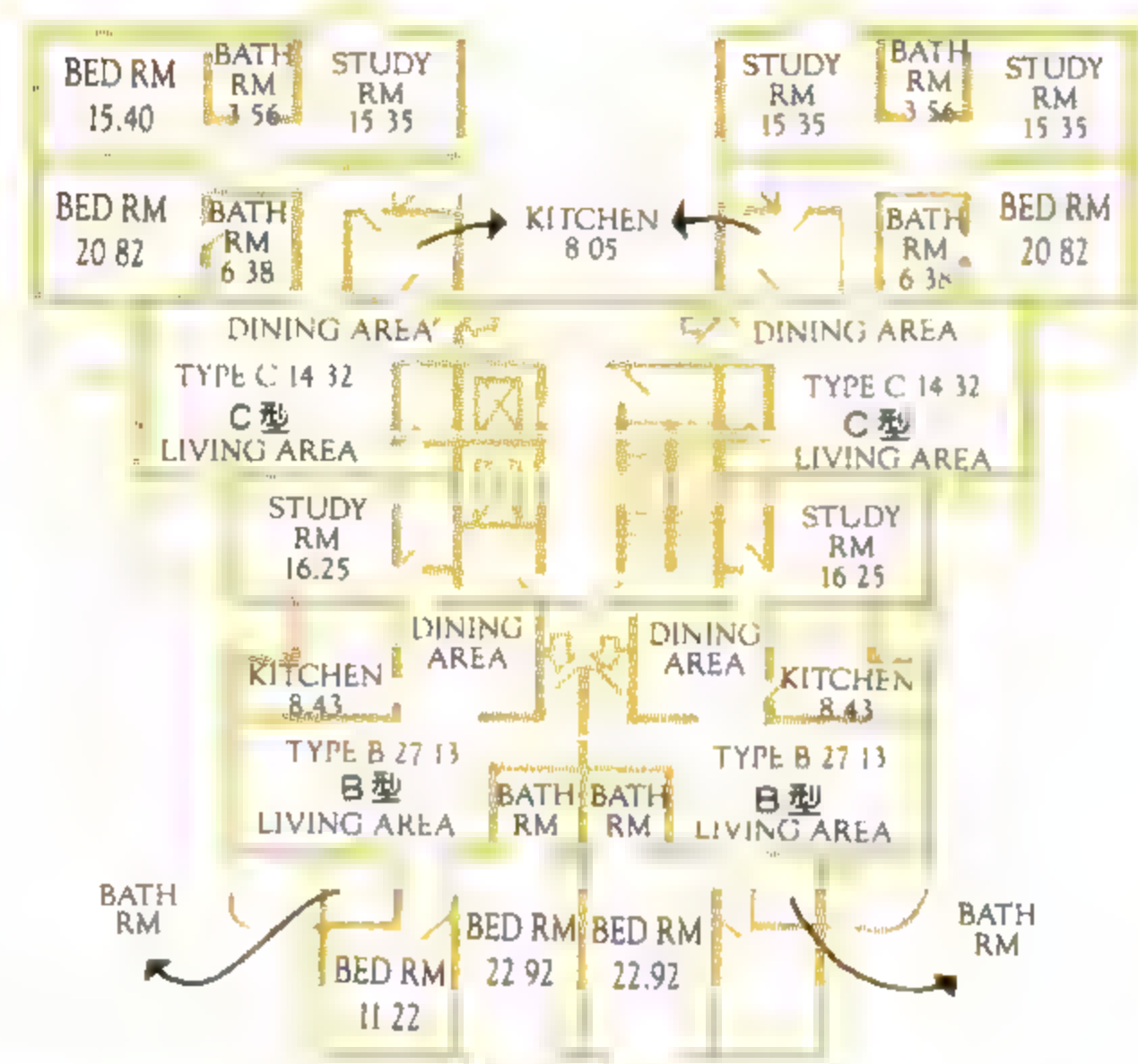
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them winning prizes
internationally and by the
state. The company exports in
her own right to more than 130
countries and territories.

Our corporation also obtained
permission to manage the
import and export of various
carpets in November, 1991.

Decorate and make your life
more colourful by the use of
oriental arts.

BUSINESS SCOPE

- Woolen carpets
- Silk carpets
- Cloisonné wares
- Carved lacquer wares
- Jade carvings
- Filigree wares
- Amber crystal wares
- Inlaid gold lacquer furniture
- Metal crafts
- Brocaded boxes
- Silk figurines
- Palace lanterns
- Wood carvings
- Antique-finished porcelain wares
- Velvet birds
- Glass wares
- Folk arts
- Theatrical properties
- Embroidered mats
- Embroidered costumes
- Interior-painted snuff bottles
- Cups and Medals
- Chinese paintings
- Suitcases and Boxes



General Manager: Wang Zhen Add: Beijing Arts And Crafts Corporation Export Trade Centre Zhuanjiaolou Hepingli Chao Yang District Beijing China
Zip: 100013 Tel: 4225511 (12 Lines) 4217546 Fax: 4213673 Contact: Zhu Lijun Zhang Qiuping

Exquisite Shu Embroidery



Sichuan embroidery, otherwise known as Shu Embroidery, has a history of over 2,000 years. It is one of the four major embroidery styles in China. Shu embroidery is distinguished by its unique style, perfect craftsmanship, lively colouring and varied themes.

Major items include ornaments, screens, hanging screens and table screens with themes of human figures, mountains, rivers, flowers, birds and other animals for both ornamental and practical purposes - men's and ladies's embroidered garments, bathrobes and pyjamas, table cloths, head-pieces, scarfs and bed stuff.

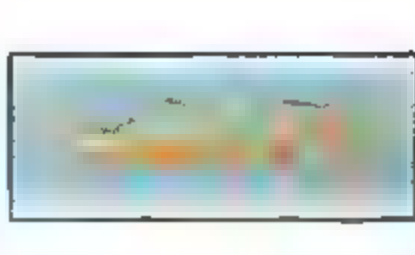
Shu embroidery is eye-dazzling; when offered as gift, it symbolizes nobleness and gracefulness. No wonder people hold it as artistic pieces of high value. It sells well at home and abroad.



Sichuan Silk Import and Export Corporation

Add: 24, Taisheng Bei Road, Chengdu, Sichuan, China. Telex: 60106 CSSB CN

Cable: SISICORP CHENGDU Phone: 671753, 667924 Fax: 671753



Henan Province is located in the centre of China. It has a fine climate which is good for the growing of cotton. The province is quite developed in light industry and textile industry and convenient in transportation. Zhengzhou — the capital of Henan — is one of China's major textile centres. With many years' experience in handling the production and export of garments, knitwear, cotton & woollen textiles, it has laid down a foundation for further developing its textile industry which is benefitted by nature.

CN Textiles I/E Corp., Henan Clothing (Holding) Co. specializes in the export and import of garments, cotton & woollen knitwear and series goods. The Corporation was incorporated in June 1988 on the basis of the original China National Textiles Imp. & Exp. Corp., Henan Garment Branch, and there are now under the Corporation four companies specializing in woven garments, cotton & woollen knitwear and multiple trades. It has also 29 subsidiaries of self-owned, joint ventured, individual proprietorship and co-operative enterprises as well as five overseas setups in Hongkong, USA, Japan, Germany and Panama.

Businesses handled by the group corporation are as follows:

Garments and cotton & woollen knitwear as well as textiles made of natural fibres, chemical fibres, synthetic fibres, sheep wool and rabbit hair, etc. Also available are piece goods, accessories, dyestuff and technology, production line, equipment and spareparts, etc., used in garment manufacturing. The Corporation also undertakes processing with imported or supplied materials, compensation trade, barter trade, leasing business, agency, joint ventures, cooperative management and domestic market sales.

The Corporation has adopted practical and effective management ever since its setting up and it has striven hard in expanding and enhancing its quality as well as maintaining a high level of management. The Corporation has set up solid trade relationships with over 500 business partners in more than 80 countries and regions including USA, Canada, Japan, Europe, the Middle East, Hongkong and Macau and the amount of its export earnings have increased year by year. In 1990, the Corporation won a 2nd class Enterprise Award of China.

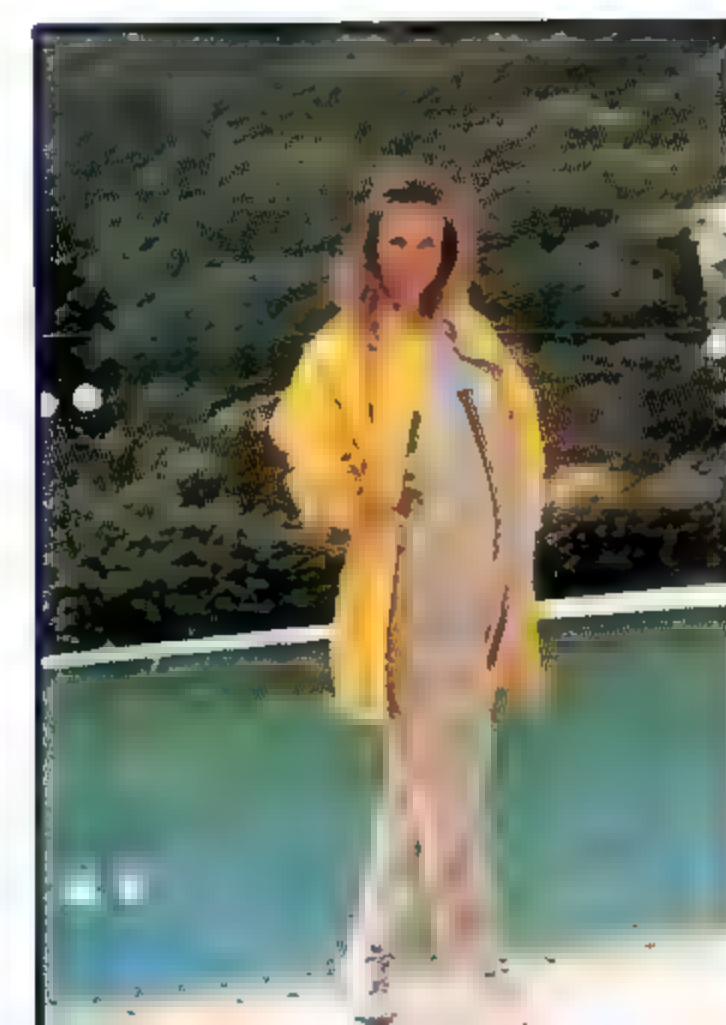
Friends from economic and trade circles all over the world are warmly welcome to visit us for business talks, mutual exchange and co-operation which are sure to enhance our friendship.

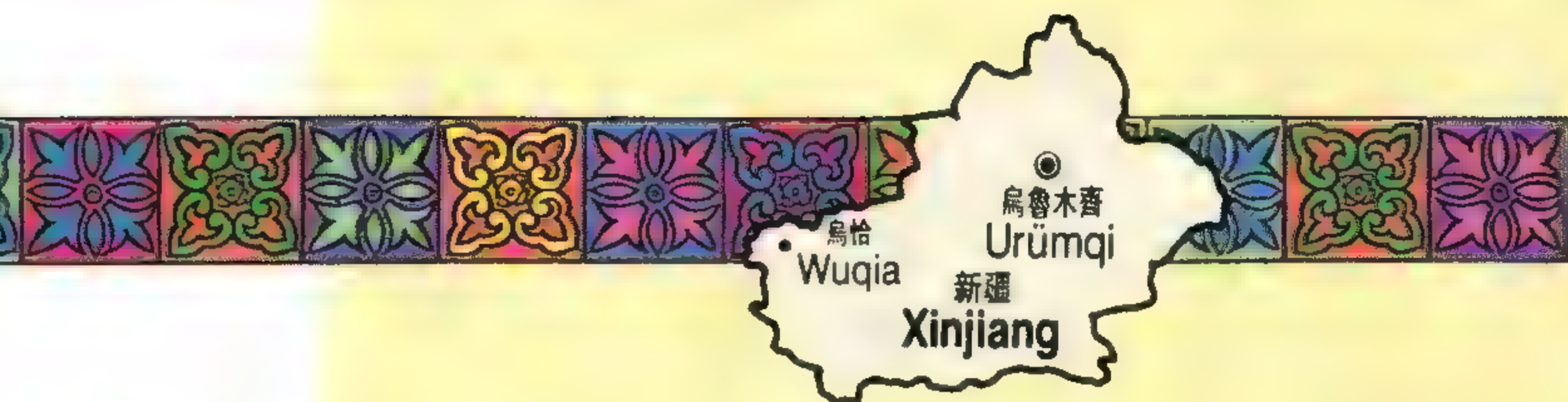


HENAN CLOTHING (HOLDING) IMP. & EXP. CORP., CHINA 中國河南省服裝進出口(集團)公司

General Manager: Dong Mingyu Deputy General Managers: Wang Xianming, Zhang Xianan, Luo Yide, Zhang Yun Xiong Fax: 556943
Add: 32 Weiwu Rd., Zhengzhou, China Tel: 553904, 552271, 555544, 554037, 553018 Cable: 2747 Telex: 46071 HZDET CN

總經理：董明玉 副總經理：王顯銘、張憲安、羅義德、張雲祥 地址：中國鄭州市緯五路32號 電話：553904 552271 555544 554037 553018 電掛：2747 電傳：46071 HZDET CN 圖文傳真：556943





China's "Wild West"

In early summer last year, we took a bus westward from Urümqi, capital of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, for a visit to Jigan Township in Wuqia (Ulugqat) County in Kizilsu Kirgiz Autonomous Prefecture. After a long and bumpy bus ride, we felt totally exhausted by the time we finally arrived at our destination, as well we should be, for we were nearly as far west as it was possible to be and still remain in China.

Highland Pasture, Severe Weather and Rugged Character

The highlands of the Pamirs mountains are home to the Kirgizs of Jigan. Living on the high altitude pasture every day and braving the severe cold climate of the area, the Kirgizs have attained bold and unconstrained expression of emotion. They burst into broad smiles at the sight of us and greeted us warmly.

For a long time, the Kirgiz people have inhabited the land that makes up Kizilsu Kirgiz Autonomous Prefecture which covers an area of 70,900 square kilometres. Bordering on Kirghizia and Tajikistan, Kizilsu is China's westernmost prefecture. Though the region is practically cut off from the rest of the world by high mountains, abundant water supply and rich underground resources have made it possible for the Kirgiz people, who are mostly nomadic herdsmen, to enjoy a life of self-sufficiency.

Kirgiz Costumes: Bold for the Men and Elegant for the Women

While strolling in Jigan, what struck me most was the tasteful and practical clothes of the Kirgiz people. Kirgiz men sport leather or woollen trousers and high boots matched by a shirt with standing collar and buttoned in the front under a collarless jacket. On the head they wear a white felt hat with a black brim that is rolled up. Around the waist they have a belt to which a knife is attached.



Kizilsu Kirgiz Autonomous Prefecture, China's westernmost territory, features highland pastures.

At the Homes of Kirgiz Herdsmen

PHOTOS & ARTICLE BY FENG JIN



Kirgiz girls are good at embroidering tapestries, a skill that may have great bearing on their marriage prospects.



Felt hats like this, made by hand, are a symbol of the Kirgiz people.



The Kirgiz graveyard offers some unique tomb architecture.



The snow-covered Muztagata Mountain is known as the Father of Ice Mountain. At its foot, a stream gently makes its way through the grassland. For a long time, the Kirgizs have considered this place their home.



The dwellings of the Kirgiz people are yurts known as felt-houses which are warm in winter, cool in summer and easy to move.



A tug of war.

The outfit reveals in full the rugged quality typical of this highland people.

Kirgiz women pay great attention to their clothes and appearance. Married or not, they all have a vest in black or dark red colour of wool. They may wear a dress or a suit of jacket and shirt mostly in red, but what particularly catches the eye is the meticulously hand-made vest which is decorated with a variety of ornaments including silver and copper coins, silver buttons and colourful plastic buttons. The vests and the necklaces, earrings, bracelets and rings compliment each other and together bring out an air of grace like an embroidered brocade. Kirgiz women sometimes like to sew many white buttons on the front of their vests. At a glance these button arrangements resemble flowers.

Some girls who keep their hair long also tie on their plaits rings and silver coins, a custom that is believed to bring fortune and good luck. Most young girls wear a red round hat featuring patterns woven with golden threads. The hat is draped with a bright-coloured scarf which further helps accentuate the charm of young Kirgiz girls.

Yurt Homes Quick to Set Up

The homes of the Kirgiz people, usually over three metres high and three to four metres in diameter, are built

with felt over wooden frames. They are easy to move and capable of resisting wind and storms.

The yurts or felt-houses are as easy to build as to move. The frame consists of two parts: the net with strips of wood that goes around like a fence-wall; and the umbrella-shaped top built with rafters. The frame is first covered with a layer of grass mattress and then a layer of thick white felt which is tightened with woollen ropes. No wonder it is a quick job to build or take apart a felt-house.

An opening that serves as the window is kept right in the centre of the felt roof for ventilation and receiving sunshine illumination. The building materials together with the roof window make the tent warm in winter and cool in summer.

Kirgiz Delicacies

Once inside a felt-house, our attention was immediately attracted to the tapestries and carpets with their particularly attractive patterns. In the middle, there was a stove and cooking facilities. We were surprised at the well-furnished interior of what appeared to be very simple shelters from outside.

Before we came to Ulugqat, we had already heard how the Kirgiz people entertained their guests with the best food they had. Our experience here proved what we



This tapestry seen at the home of a Kirgiz elder is over a hundred years old.

had learned beforehand and removed whatever little doubt that I had at the warm degree of hospitality that this nationality was famous for.

As we sat around on the carpet, the table was laid over with mutton, rice, *nang*, a kind of baked wheat flour cake, and dairy products, all naturally of strong local flavours. In addition, there were vegetables, fruits and barley wheat.

The local people's diet consists of meat, milk and dairy products for all three meals. Tea with milk is their drink all the year round. But a feast like the one we were treated to is served only when there are guests in the house or on festive occasions.

Weddings Last Three Days

Before breakfast the next morning, we were roused by the noise outside. Upon inspection we found a bridegroom accompanied by the groomsmen, his parents and relatives merrily marching to the home of the bride bearing gifts including livestock. A closer look showed a horse carrying on its back a freshly slaughtered sheep whose head and intestines had been taken away but whose skin



Tapestries are used to furnish Kirgiz homes. They are usually found at the most conspicuous spot in the felt-house.



Kirgiz people have no meal without dairy food. To treat guests to milk tea is their tradition.



Mother-in-law kisses her future daughter-in-law at the ceremony that announced the young couple's betrothal.



had not been removed. The Kirgiz custom is to burn the skin clean. This sheep is a must among the gifts that the family of a bridegroom presents to the girl's family.

Following the crowd, I arrived at the bride's maternal home, where the wedding ceremony was already in process. Relatives from both sides put deep-fried diamond-shaped flour cakes, milk cakes, candies and other foods into a bag which was then hoisted to the roof window with the bag's opening facing downward. The food fell to the ground and children competed in picking them up and eating them. This ritual marked the formal beginning of the wedding ceremony. The bride's family prepared a slaughtered sheep to entertain the visitors.

Kirgiz weddings are presided over by an imam, in keeping with Islamic tradition. The imam asks individually the bride and bridegroom if they wish to marry each other. When an affirmative answer is given, the newly-weds each will eat a bowl of baked wheat flour cake dipped in salt water which symbolizes a life-long love.

The Second Day: Climax

The weddings of the Kirgizs are great festive occasions and last three days, with the second day marking the height of the celebration, when relatives of

both sides all come together for the event. When all the relatives have arrived, traditional Kirgiz activities such as snatching the sheep, strength test on horseback, horse racing and wrestling will begin.

That night, the bride comes to the home of her husband's brother's family to meet with her sweetheart. They sit inside the tent in the company of bridesmaids and other members of the wedding party. All the guests sit outside, where young men play Kirgiz musical instruments and sing happy songs and people dance and compete in composing poems and singing, until the middle of the night.

Mother-in-Law Moves In

The third day of the wedding is for the bride to formally leave her own family. After tearfully bidding farewell to her loved ones, she rides away on the horse supplied and decorated with silver and copper ornaments by her maternal family, taking with her clothing, bedding and other daily essentials, accompanied by her husband who has come especially to take her home. Her mother accompanies her as part of the Kirgiz tradition. The mother will stay for at least two or three days with her daughter in her new home and sometimes she may stay for as long as a month to help her daughter out in her new life.

Tapestry Embroidery

At Ulugqat, I often saw Kirgiz girls embroidering tapestries outside their homes. On an extremely large piece of rectangular black velvet cloth, their hands moved deftly in a variety of embroidery techniques to bring out a wide range of beautiful patterns. As they all worked individually, the tapestries are rendered with strong individual characteristics in design, pattern composition, colour combination and execution.

Embroidery is considered an essential technique for Kirgiz girls for tapestries are part of their dowry. It is said that young men often make young girls' embroidery skills one of the considerations for choosing their future wives.



Translated by Huang Youyi

The meticulously made silver handicraft inlay on a horse saddle was crafted over a hundred years ago by Kirgiz craftsmen.



Swimming in the Mountain Brook



Free-Style Farmer Painting

PHOTOS BY XU ZHUO
ARTICLE BY TIAN TANG

Chickens



Making Noodles



Keeping Pet Birds



As a matter of fact, the farmer painting is the mainstream of modern Chinese folk paintings, beginning in the late fifties. Most noteworthy in this regard are the wall paintings by the farmers in Pixian County of Jiangsu Province and Huxian County of Shaanxi Province. But it was not until 1980, during an art exhibition held in Shanghai by the farmers of Jinshan County that people came to realize that these were part of the modern folk painting genre. All the pictures are painted by the farmers themselves, laying stress on the expression of feelings and never confined to any pattern or school of thought. They paint in the way they like to. On the other hand they boldly use the Chinese traditional plane perspective to portray scenes. In order to fully display the theme they also depict all the figures in one picture. So it is very difficult to classify them. People generally call them "farmer paintings" for lack of a clearer descriptive category.

These works are usually full of local flavour and overflowing with the joy of life. The painters themselves are farmers and fishermen. They naturally are most familiar with their own life. They valiantly use bright colours and unrestrained lines to express their ideals and pursuits. As a result, the combination of rich imagination, sharp contrast of colours, simple depiction of figures and unconstrained feelings permeated through the works have formed a distinctive style.

It is said there are more than fifty counties in China with folk painting. Huxian County and Luochuan of Shaanxi Province, Jinshan County of Shanghai, Pixian County of Jiangsu Province, the northern suburbs of Tianjin and Longmen County of Guangdong possess a great number of farmer paintings. Farmers of different places have different habits and customs. It is the same with the style and features of their works. For instance, the farmers of Shaanxi live on the rugged northwest highland. Their works are rough and simple. Zhoushan and Cixi of Zhejiang are lands of fish and rice, so the style is delicate, pretty and exquisite. As Guangdong Province is in the south of China, it has more chance to have contact with the outer world. Hence the range of subjects treated here is much wider.

Swimming in the Mountain Brook

The painter captures peoples' unrestrained joy during this leisure activity. In the picture the black mountains and the blue water serve as a foil to the fluid grace of the swimmers and divers who are like trapeze acrobats. Along the bank some are just going ashore. There are also some sitting among the mountains watching. The moving animate objects and inanimate plants with fluid lines are very well matched. The lines are unpolished and unrefined, but vivid and lifelike. (*Huxian, Shaanxi*)

Chickens

In the Chinese pronunciation "chicken" and "fortune" are homonyms. The chicken is a symbol of great fortune and great benefit, at the same time it represents the pursuit of improved prospects. Some thirty chicks colourfully depicted standing in a line dot the picture frame, which except for the elderly farmer woman shows a world of chickens. The feathers of the newly hatched chicks should have been painted yellow, but the artist imaginatively decorates the chickens with the colours of the rainbow. He even paints one flower in full blossom on each chicken in order to make the picture all the more joyful. One cannot see a hen in the picture, but only a colourful cock of enormous size. The chickens scattered about in the picture are running here, there and everywhere freely. The artist uses perspective which enables one to see clearly the chickens coming out of the egg shell into the world. The whole scene celebrates the abundance of the farmers. (*Luochuan, Shaanxi*)

Making Noodles

In the picture the woman's headdress, the ornaments on the collar and sleeves, the embroidered cotton shoes and the patterns on the rice bucket give prominence to the customs of northern Shaanxi villages. The artist boldly takes the back of the figure as the main part of the picture. Although we cannot see the expression on her face, her exaggerated motion when making noodles and the white flour dough which is bigger than her

Collecting Shellfish



Catching Jellyfish



A Village Wushu Team



Going Back to Mother's Home



ample figure with deep colours as its setting vividly embody the woman's boundless joy after the harvest as well as the abundance of the harvest itself. The portrayal of this period of joy is further reinforced by the happy children in the upper corners and the fat, playful cat at the woman's feet. (Luochuan, Shaanxi)

Keeping Pet Birds

The picture displays the great pleasure that people take in raising their pet birds. Two young men are showing off the birds which they have brought with them to the old man. From the side face view of the old man we can surmise that he is not impressed. Embellished with six wild birds and two geometric ornamental flowers, decoration is scarce. (Longmen, Guangdong)

Collecting Shellfish

The whole picture looks calm and auspicious. All the boats are moored along the shore. But the people are still riding sampans and sailboats to collect shellfish. The artist uses red to depict the seashore, blue for the sea and black to represent the beach with shellfish hidden in it. The contrast of colours is sharp. Everything is still except the people in pastels are at work. All the elements are effectively set off. (Zhoushan, Zhejiang)

Catching Jellyfish

The picture vividly employs simple images to present the scene of fishermen going to the sea to catch jellyfish. The artist paints the jellyfish in solid red and makes the jellyfish bigger than the humans. The combination of these two features make the jellyfish the essential part of the picture. Besides, the artist flexibly uses five basic colours, white, blue, black, navy blue and red to indicate the changing water, waves, fishing boats, jellyfish and sea gulls. The contrast of colours is striking but harmonious, thanks in large measure to the flowing lines that the artist uses to depict the boats, water and waves. (Zhoushan, Zhejiang)


A Village Wushu Team

On the blue background of the picture is a wushu team giving performances. There are lots of people in the picture, but they are orderly arranged according to their activity. The facial expressions of the people correspondingly also are different. One can see it is a competition ground in a minority region. On the right top corner the extended head of the dragon enhances a festival atmosphere. On the ground "when a veteran performer goes into action, he can do the job of two". In the gong and drum section, the gong player, cymbalist and drummer have different functions. Some of the audience put their arms on others' shoulders, some whisper to each other and some gaze at the competition. Two old men bemusedly finger their beards, which sets off the lively atmosphere in bold relief. The picture is colourful and vibrant with action. (Longmen, Guangdong)

Going Back to Mother's Home

This picture presents a view from the top. A boat is in the centre. The husband is rowing while the wife is sitting watching the wine, meat, cloth and flowers which she is taking home. Lotus leaves and water hyacinths are interspersed by fish and birds. Everything, whether in the sky or in the water, is presented as if on a single plane. The movement remains natural and lively showing a pleasant existence. (Cixi, Zhejiang)

Wedding

This picture shows the newly married couple bowing to the ancestors. The painter designed the picture in virtual symmetry. In the centre of the picture is a table with people standing by both sides. The red Chinese character "Double Happiness" hangs in the middle of the wall, on both sides of which is a pair of papercut butterflies. All this attention to symmetry implies everything is well-balanced at this crucial time. The figures in the painting are delicately portrayed. The costumes of men and women, old and young are distinctive, which gives an impression of modern fashion on some of the characters. The painter is particular about the harmony of colours to enhance the symmetry of the scene. (Cixi, Zhejiang) 

Translated by Li Wen

Wedding



Dragon Boat Festival of the Miao Nationality

PHOTOS & TEXT BY WANG DONGYOU



The dragon-head pin worn by women in their hair is said to have its origin in the primitive shape of a dragon in the Han Dynasty. Wearing it on this day will bring them luck.

It is a custom of the Hans, the largest nationality in China, to hold Dragon Boat races on the fifth day of the fifth lunar month. The day is known as Duanwu or Dragon Boat Festival which falls on June 16 this year. Dragon Boat racing is also a custom of the Miaos living in the Qindongnan Miao and Dong Autonomous Prefecture in Guizhou Province, Southwest China. However, their dragon boat racing does not take place on the fifth day of the fifth month. Instead, they are held from the 24th to the 26th day of the month which happens to be July 5-7 this year. The sites of competition are Pingzhai in Shibing County and Shidong and Laocun in Taijiang County.

During the festival, the Miaos offer sacrifices to a legendary old man named Baogong. Legend has it that Baogong of Rongshan Village, Shidong Town, went fishing one day with his son, Jiubao, at nearby River Bala. Suddenly, a fierce dragon jumped out of the water and dragged Jiubao to its cave at the bottom of the river. The youngster was wounded. Enraged, Baogong dived into the cave and killed the dragon. That night, the dragon appeared in the dreams of people living on the river banks and asked them to build a boat patterned after its body from the trunk of a Chinese fir. It also requested them to float the boat on the Qingshui River, the biggest river in southeastern Guizhou, for several days every year. "In this way," it added, "I'll be able to gather the clouds and produce rain to ensure good harvests every year." According to the legend, this was how the Dragon Boat Festival of the Miaos came about.

The festival is a big event for the Miao people. On its eve, I visited a family in Shidong Village. A middle-aged Miao woman was cooking some food intended as sacrificial offerings to the gods. They were to serve as nourishment for the rowers as well. It is considered an honour to do the cooking, because only a middle-aged woman who is recognized by all villagers as the cleanest and the most meticulous and diligent in the vil-



The gun booms once and the rowers paddle with all their strength towards the finishing line.

lage is entitled to the job. Other people are forbidden to take part and are not allowed to say things like "it's not done" during the cooking. I noticed that the woman, while busy cooking, continually chanted incantations to welcome the gods. What surprised me most was the fact that she did not cover up the pot when she steamed the foods, letting out all the steam into the air. I was told later that this would make it possible for the aroma of the foods to spread around so that "the gods in the four corners of the earth could smell it and come to the Dragon Boat Festival".

Rituals of offering sacrifices to the gods were held before the boat race began. The purpose was to ensure that everything would go well for the competition. A supposedly auspicious day was selected for the rituals. On this day, the villagers gathered round an ancient tree chosen for the occasion. The master of the sacrificial ceremony first tied a rope made of hemp around the trunk and then killed a cockerel. If the eyes of the fowl were open, it symbolized good luck. The villagers would then place their sacrificial offerings under the tree, burn incense and sprinkle a few drops of wine on the ground. Following that, the master of rituals would chant incantations and pray to the fir in these words: "You are the king of trees. Please let us chop you down to build a Dragon



Two dragon boats are vying with each other on the Qingshui River while the crowds on the banks watch excitedly.

Boat. You'll become a male dragon, the everlasting leader of all dragons. Give us your blessings so that all people in the village will enjoy good luck and good health and that our future generations will prosper."

It is said that women, especially those in confinement after giving birth to a baby, are forbidden to touch the dragon head of the boat while it is still being made. "If they touch it," some people say, "the dragon body will be soiled and the gods will withhold their blessings."


When the actual time for the race arrived, another sacrificial



It is indeed a happy moment to sail back triumphantly with the prize - a red banner - hanging on the bow.

ceremony was held. Before the boats started out on the river, the villagers offered sacrifices to Gaha, a kind-hearted god who is said to be a guardian of human-beings. All the men of the village were on the river bank for the ritual. An assistant of the master of rituals put a table on the bank with three cups on wine placed on its side in the ground with three paper figures hanging on it. When everything was ready, he held a white cockerel and facing the river prayed for the well-being of the villagers and the smooth running of the competition. Then, each boat sailed once round the pool in its own village before it was rowed back to the starting point of the race.

The race began at a little after 3 p.m. on the first day of the festival following the booming of a gun. Sitting in the bow of each boat was an old man called "Gutou" garbed in a fancy suit. Under his command, the 30 rowers in black and wearing conical hats and silver belts paddled with all their might towards the finishing line.

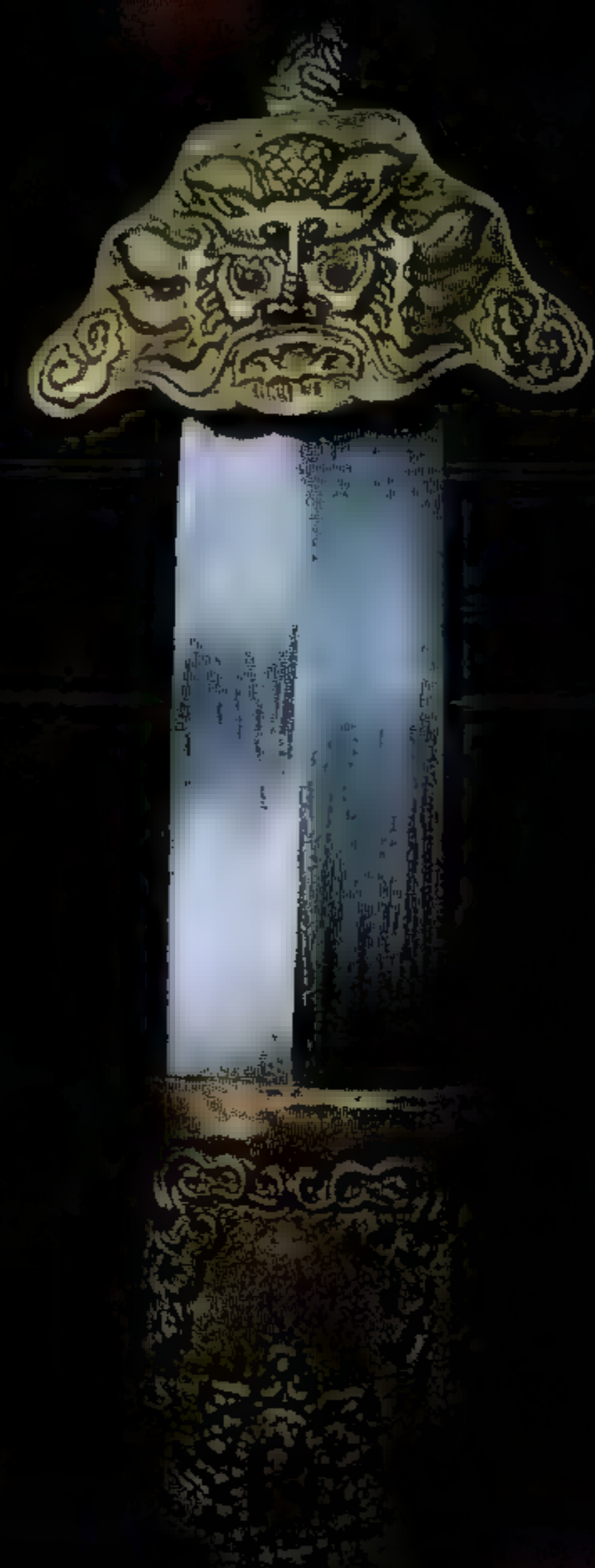
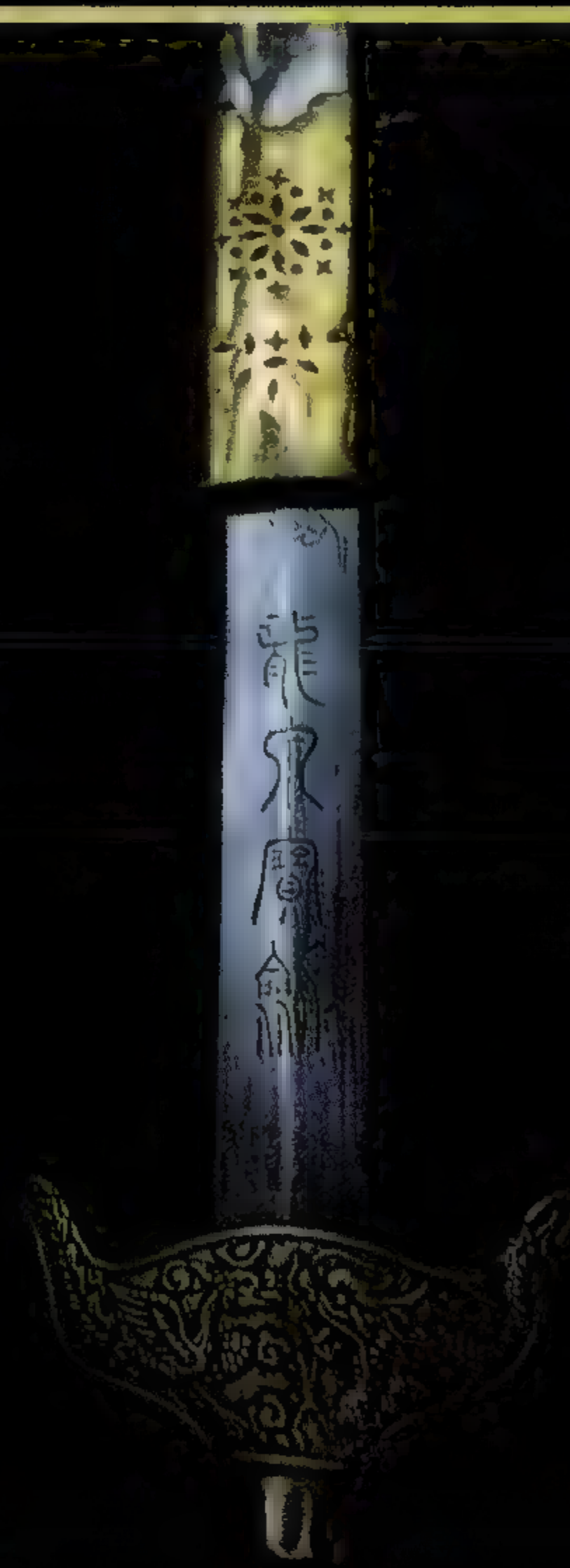
While the boats were vying with each other, the crowds on the banks cheered those from their own villages. Their shouts rocked the place. The exciting scene was really impressive. Before long, the boat that came first sailed back with a silk banner hanging on its bow to show the strength of the village it represented. 

Translated by Anne Yan

Longquan Swords

Symbols of an Ancient Forging Art

TEXT BY QIAN TING



To mention about treasured swords people would say, "The three-foot Longquan Sword".

This type of sword is presently produced in the city of Longquan in Zhejiang Province. In this mountain city situated among green groves, sword-forging factories and shops can be found everywhere, the number amounting to more than thirty.

At the gate before a row of white buildings is a wooden signboard on which "Longquan Shengguanglong Sword Shop" in big Chinese characters are inscribed. It was, in fact, a sword forge with a history of a hundred years.

Inside the workshop sword makers were busy at work by the flaming furnaces. Altogether twenty-eight different processes are employed to make a Longquan sword. They include forging, scraping, filing, engraving, quenching and polishing. The whole procedure takes three to four days. The skills, it is said, have been handed down from generation to generation. Every process calls for particular care.


The making of Longquan swords is an ancient art dating back 2,600 years. During the Spring and Autumn Period (770-476 B.C.) Ou Yezi, the creator of the sword, cast swords under imperial decree. He travelled all over the mountains and rivers south of the Yangtse River and settled at Longquan where he found the landscape on Mount Qinxia was fascinating and the water of the lake there was lucid and sweet. The peaceful environment provided favourable conditions for casting an implement of war. There he cast three swords and contributed them to the imperial court. The king of the State of Chu regarded these swords as the treasure of the state. From then on the Longquan Sword became renowned all over the country.

A test to prove the marvel that these swords represented was conducted in the workshop. Six copper coins were neatly piled up on the table. A young man first brandished a Longquan sword they produced. Suddenly following a flash, the copper coins were cut into halves, but the sword remained as sharp as before. Then a girl emerged with a thin and supple sabre wrapped around her waist. She then released the sword. With a whiz the sword straightened out from its 360-degree bend.

The swords they used for demonstration had dragon and phoenix designs etched on the upper part of the blade. The Big Dipper constellation was also similarly engraved on it; that is why the Longquan Sword is also known as the Dipper Sword. Legend has it that the place where Ou Yezi originally cast swords had seven ancient wells arranged in the shape of the Big Dipper. According to legend the first pair of swords he cast using the well water for quenching



turned into a dragon and a phoenix and flew to the sky. It is natural that a dragon, a phoenix and the Big Dipper have become trademarks of the Longquan Sword.

The designs on the body of the Longquan sword are distinct and vivid. They are rendered without drawing or using a colour brush. Depending on their experience, sword designers first etch motifs less than an inch wide on the sword blade, then pour onto it the melted copper liquid. After abrasion and polishing, the design on the sword blade will remain permanently. The natural glitter on the body of the sword is acquired by polishing with a type of stone named "shining stone", which is a special product of Longquan. This is why the Longquan Sword is unique in martial arts circles. 

Translated by K.V. Ku

1. The skills of Longquan Sword making have been handed down by veteran artisans from generation to generation (by Peng Zhenge).
2. Only after being polished by the "shining stone" does the Longquan Sword glitter (by Chu Xiaoqing).
3. Etching on the sword is a characteristic feature of the product (by Peng Zhenge).
4. The handle and sheath of the sword are made from rosewood and decorated with copper plating and medallions gems (by Peng Zhenge).
5. This temple was built at the sword-making site in commemoration of Ou Yezi, the legendary creator of the Longquan Sword (by Ren Jing).
6. The first pair of swords Ou Yezi cast turned into a dragon and a phoenix and flew into the sky according to legend (photo by Chu Xiaoqing).
7. With a great variety of sizes both long or short, Longquan swords have strong and sharp blades (by Chu Xiaoqing).



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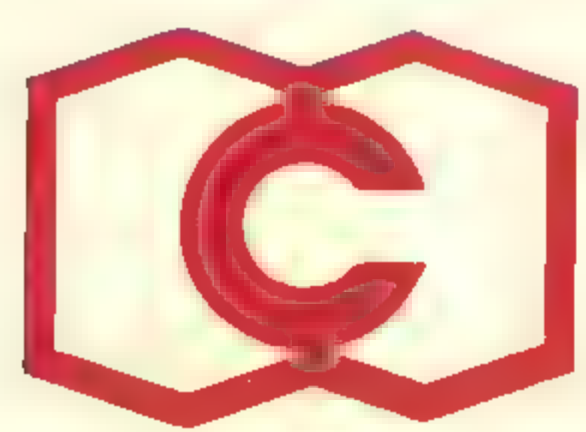
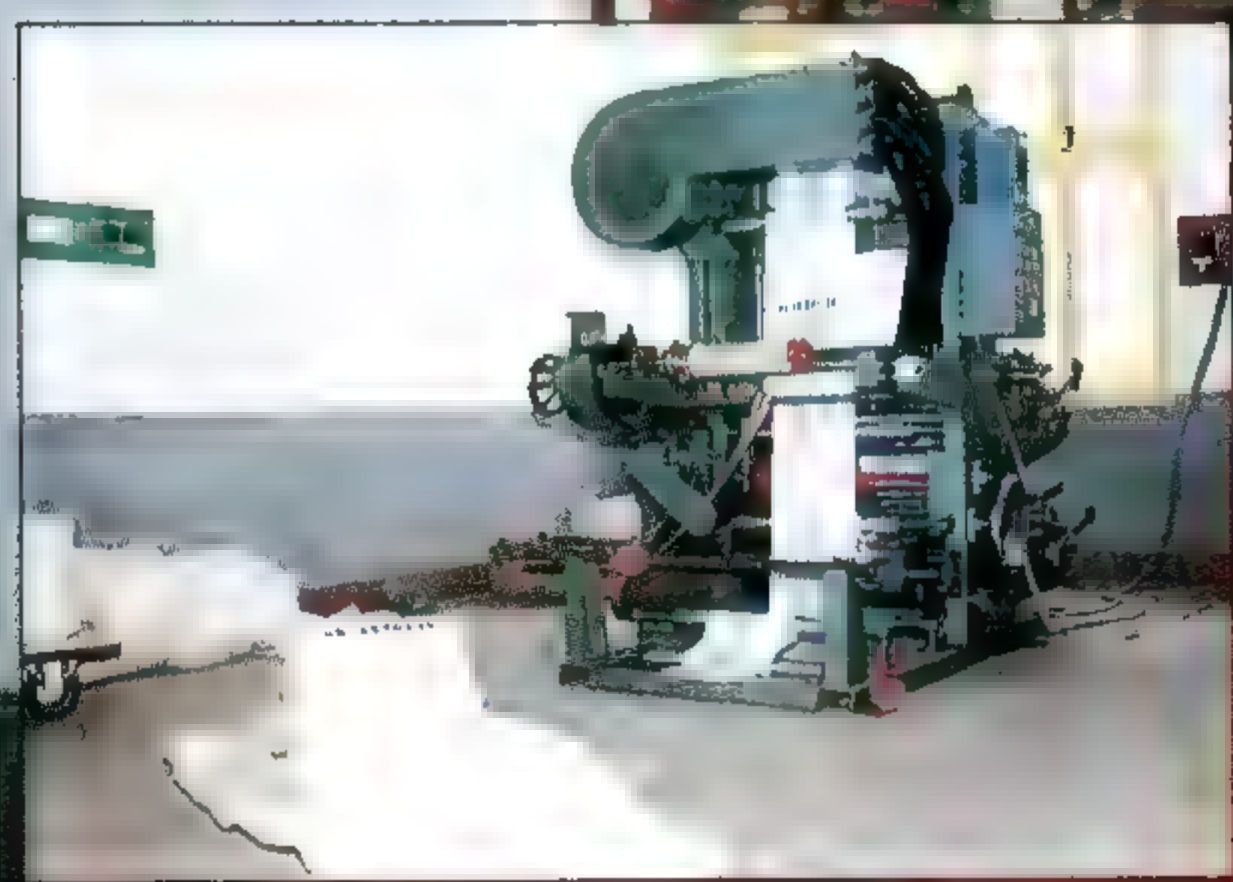
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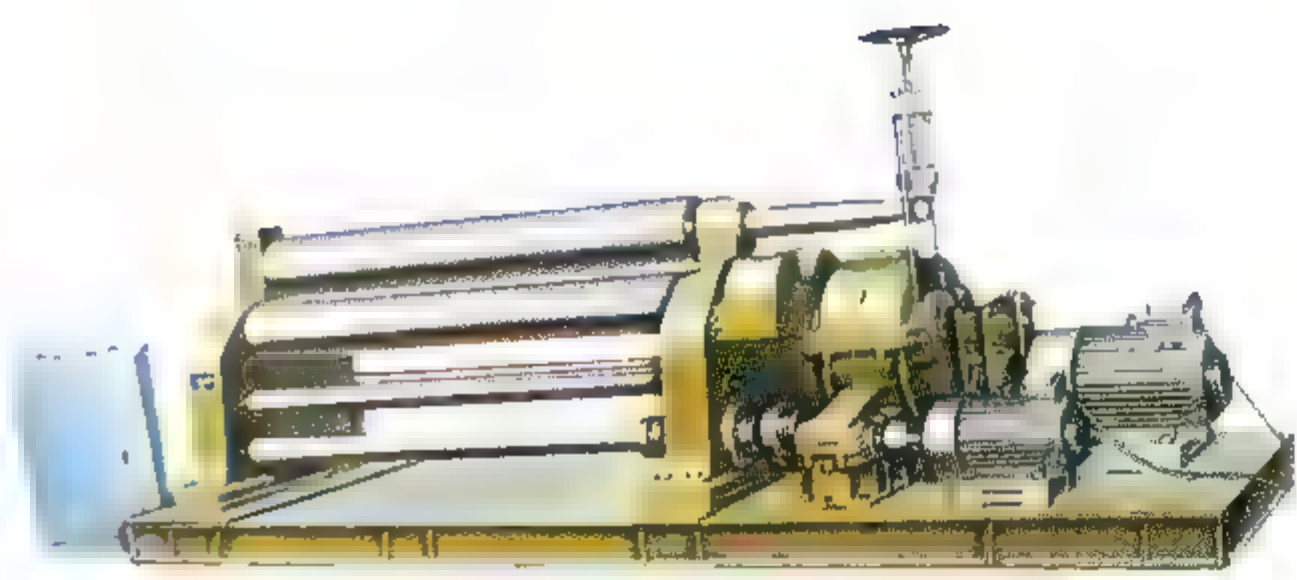
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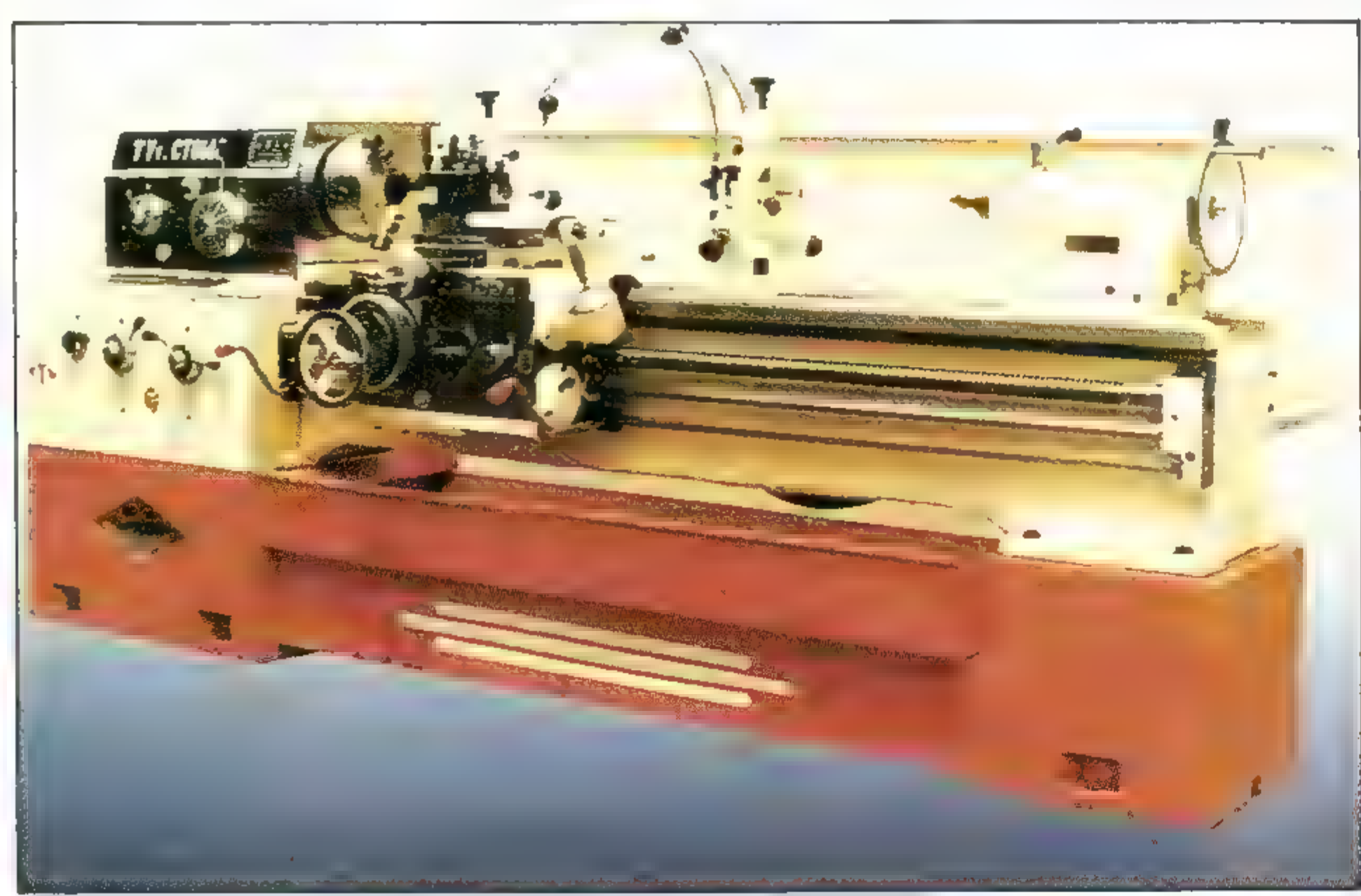
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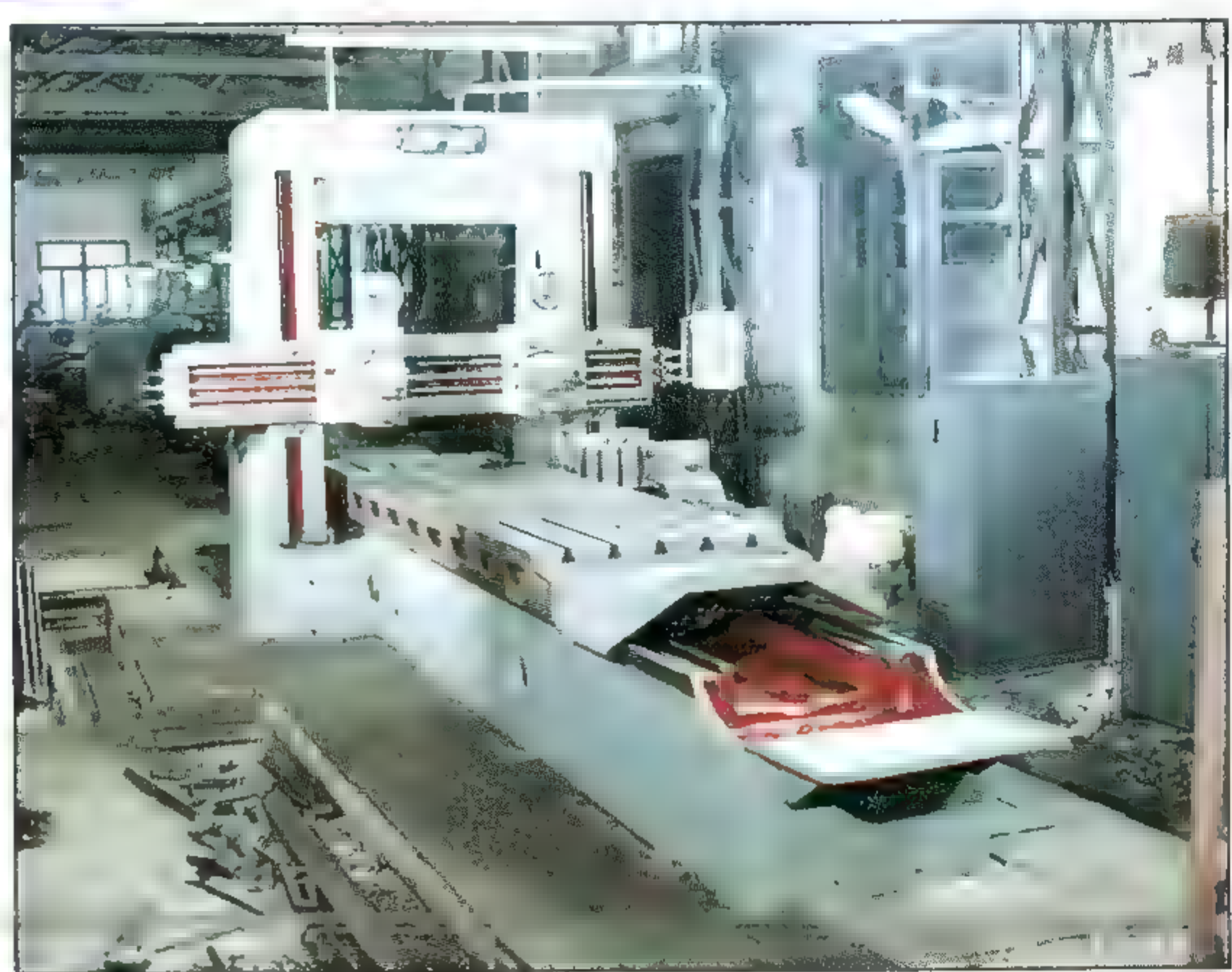


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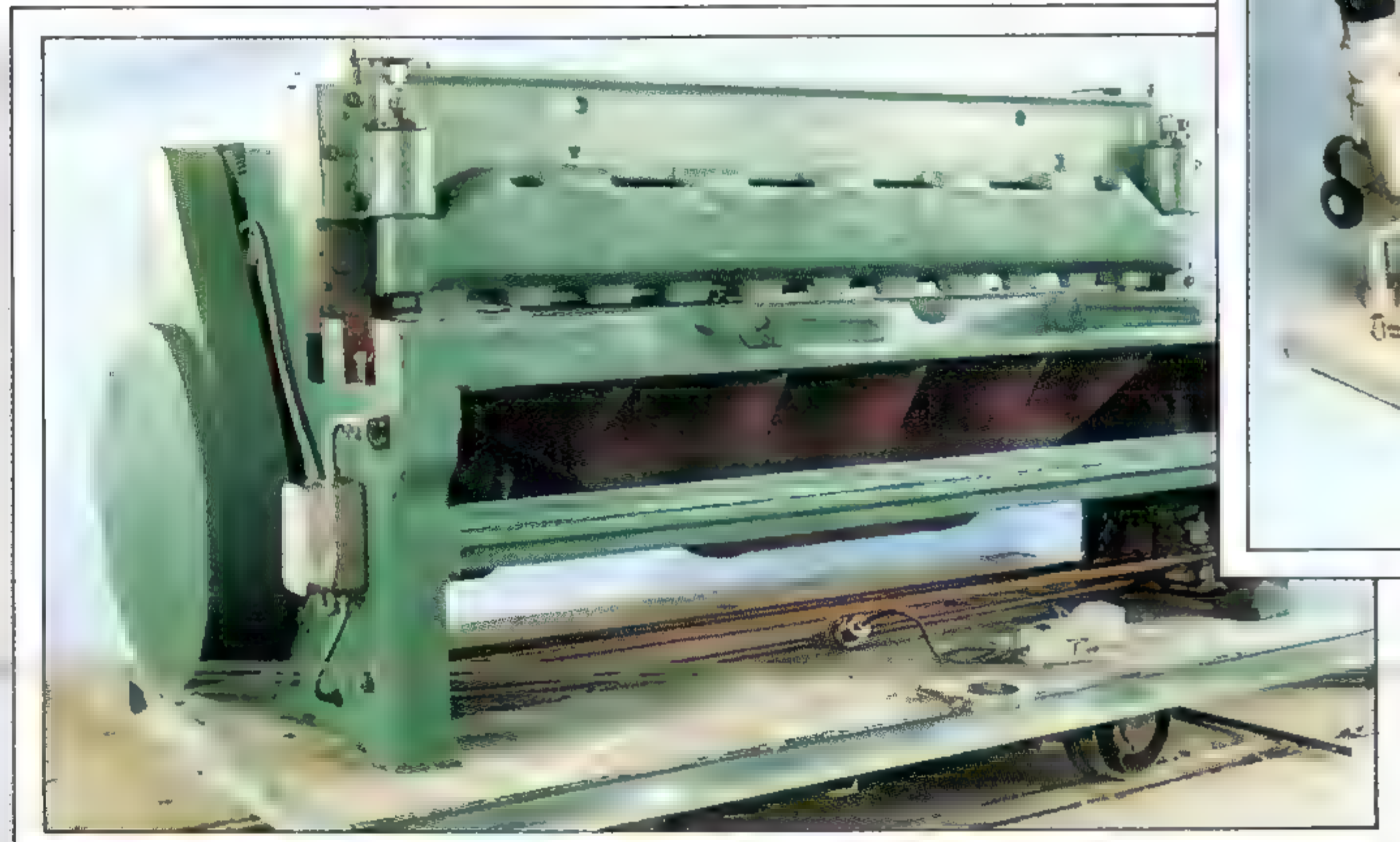
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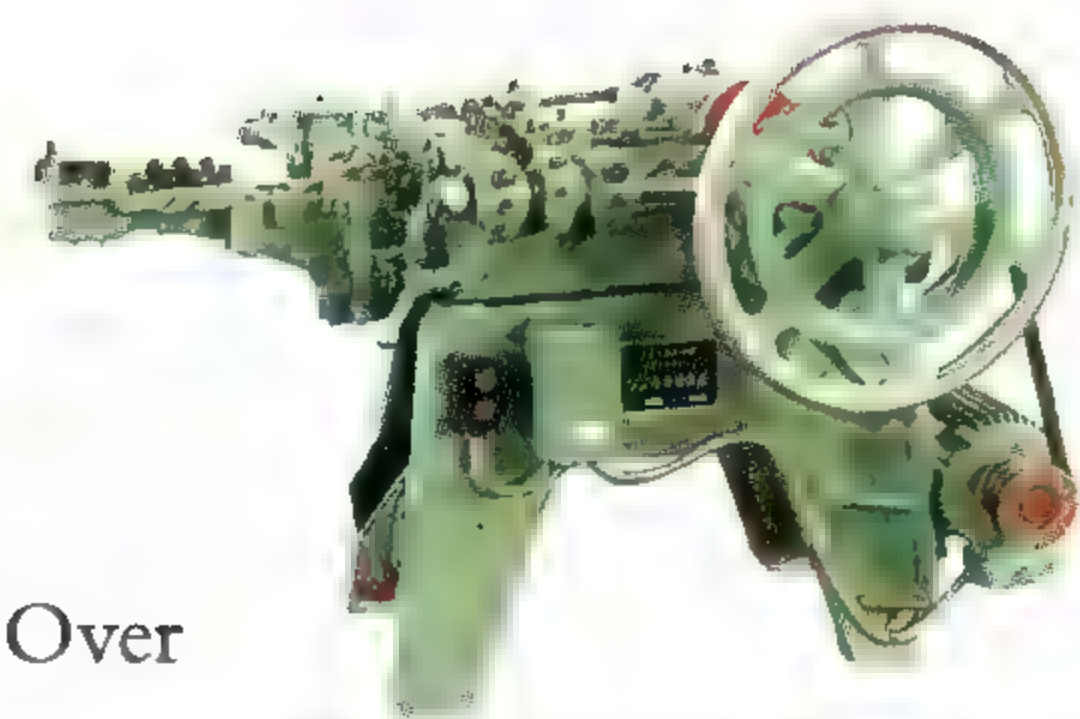
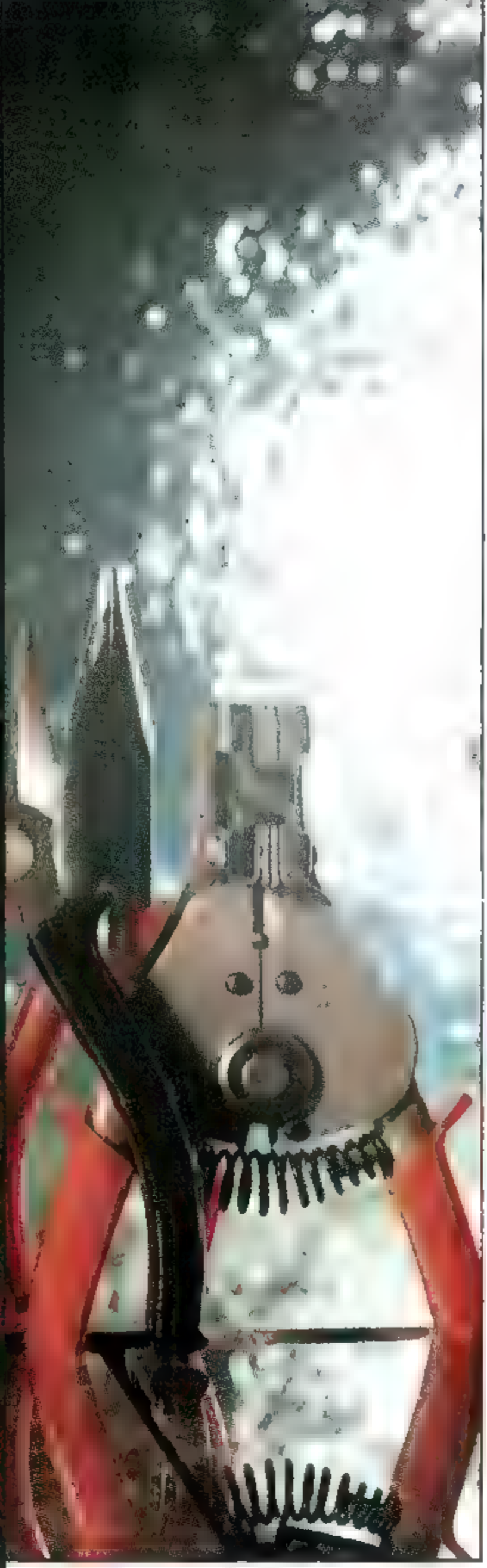
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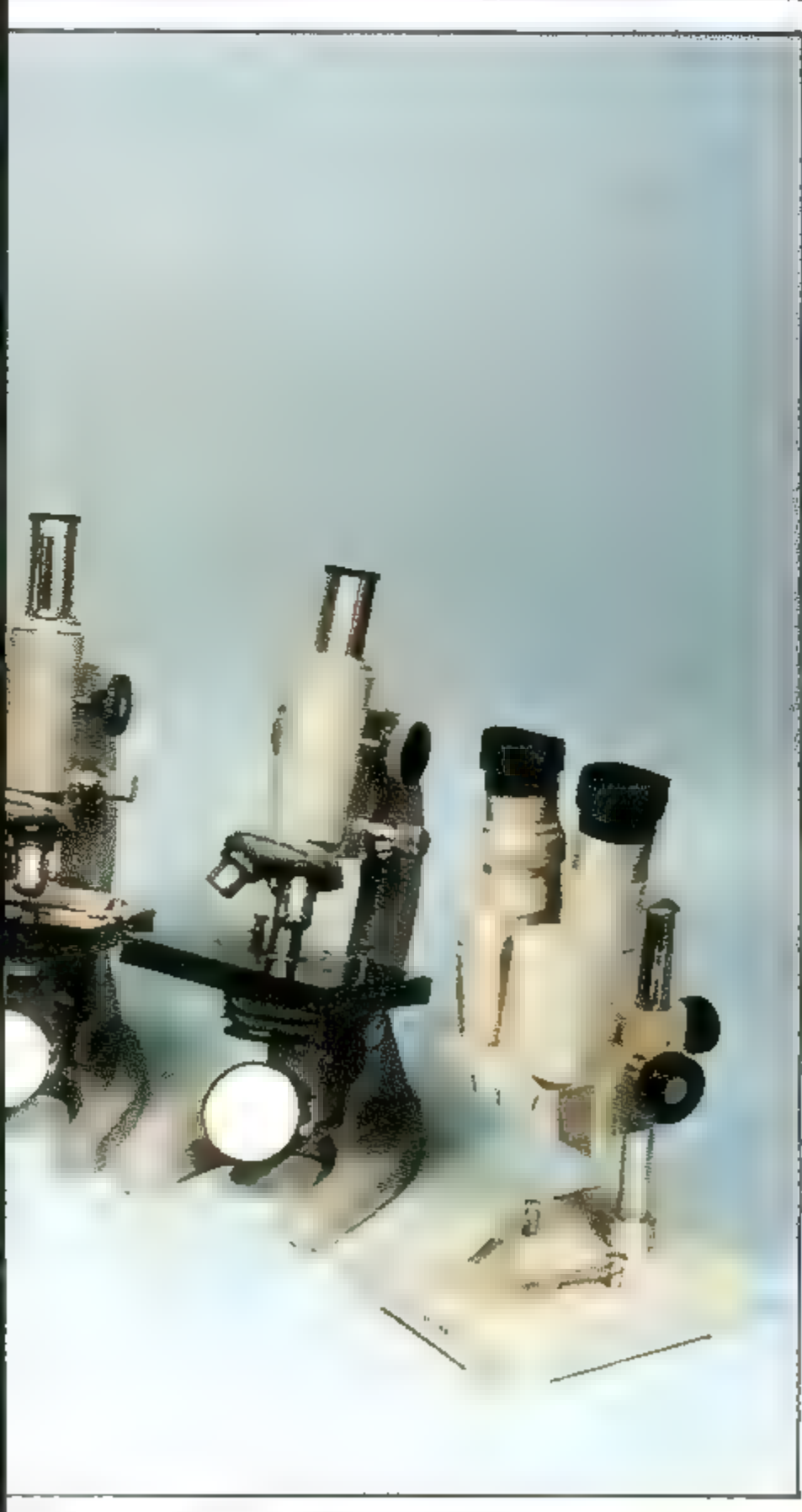
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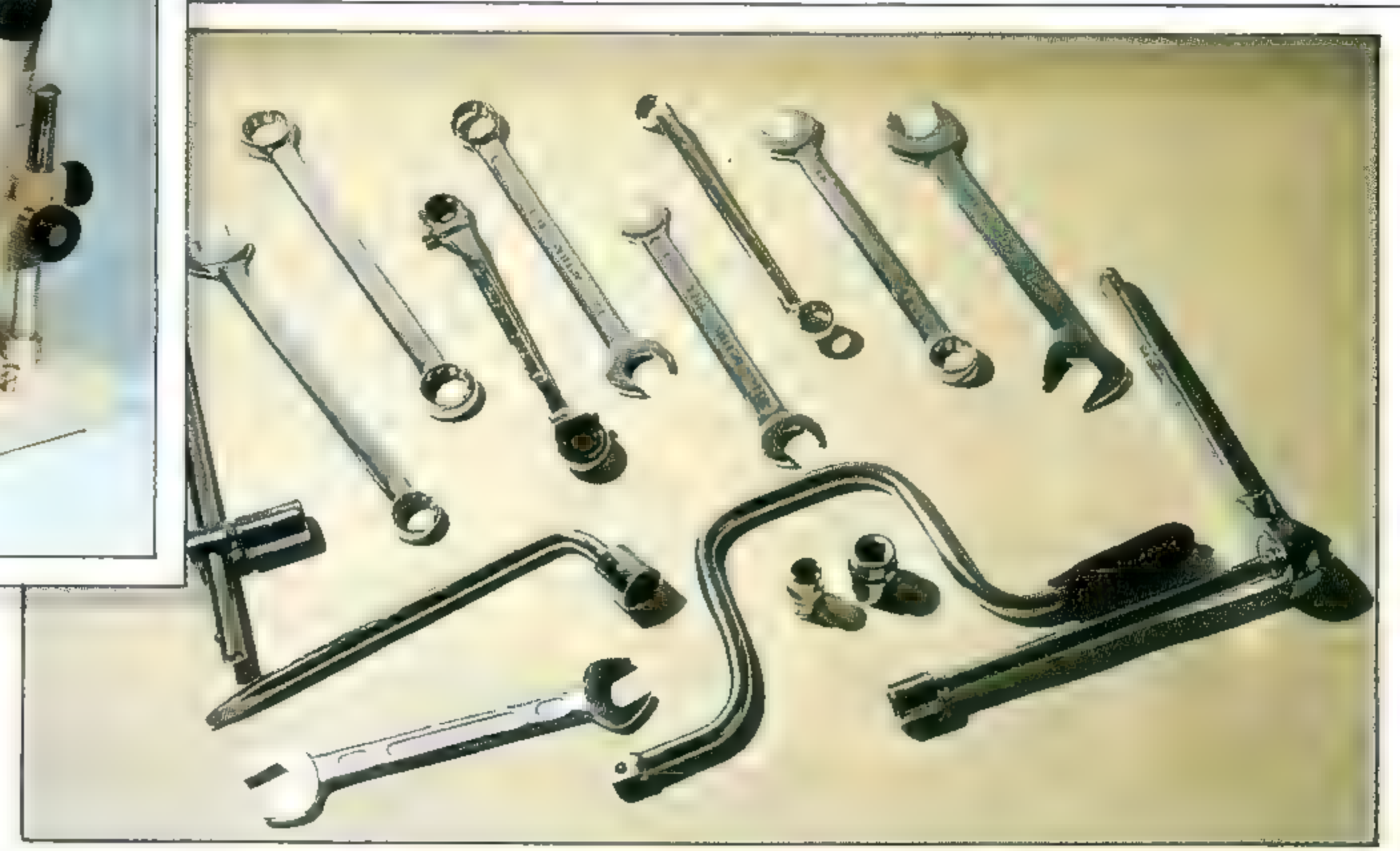
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Coins from Cowries

Chinese Currency and Its Evolution

Currency in China originated with the circulation of cowrie shells more than 4,000 years ago. Cowries have been found at Shang and Zhou sites as well as sites which have yielded artifacts resembling Shang works. The use of cowries as a medium of exchange may well predate the origin of writing in China. Towards the end of the Shang Dynasty, bronze in the shape of cowrie shells has been cast. Such coins unearthed from a Shang tomb at Anyang, Henan, may be the oldest metal coins in the world.

Over the years I have collected more than 10,000 coins representing more than 4,000 different types. In this article, I would like to introduce a small but historically significant part of my collection in chronological order.

In Photo 1, we can see the earliest stages of evolution of early currency from natural cowries to man-made bronze. The second example from the right is an example of a cowrie-shaped bronze from an ancient site. The example in the middle is one of the so-called "ant's nose" coins which were in use during the Warring States Period (475-221 B.C.). Progress continues, as demonstrated by the two coins from the states of Lu and Chu produced during this time. Second from the left is a sample of what is known as a "monster mask" coin, while on the far left is a coin described as shaped like the character "ju".

Coins for Digging?

During the Spring and Autumn Period (770-476 B.C.) and Warring States Periods (475-221 B.C.) currency evolved from an agricultural implement, the "bo", used for breaking ground. Known as "hollow-headed shovel coins" and illustrated in Photo 2 they were minted by the various states of Jin, Wei, Zheng and Song during these historical epochs. Later these would metamorphose, becoming flatter and the lower part would sprout two distinct feet, and would bear the name of the minting site and sometimes even the denomination.

Illustrated in Photo 4 from left to right are shovel coins from Han and Zhao, a Jin and Zhao coin from Geyi and a Zhao coin from Anyang.

Knife Coins

Similar to the shovel coins described above, the knife coin evolved from the knife, but had a distinctive handle with a ring at its end. This type of currency was used primarily in the states of Yan, Qi and Zhao during the Spring and Autumn and Warring States Periods. The state of Yan was the most important northern feudal state of the Zhou Dynasty. In Yixian County in Hebei a site containing many clay moulds for the manufacturing of "ming" knives has been found as well as specimens of knives and other coins. The two *ming* knife coins in Photo 5 on either end are from Yan, while the one (reverse and obverse sides) in the middle is from Qi.

Rounded Coins Appear

After the State of Qin unified China in 221 B.C., one of its major achievements was a standardization of currencies. The Qin court began minting the well-known square hole bronze coins. This type of coin, because it was easy to both carry and count, stayed in use for more than 2,000 years, until the beginning of the twentieth century. Samples are shown in Photos 3 and 8.

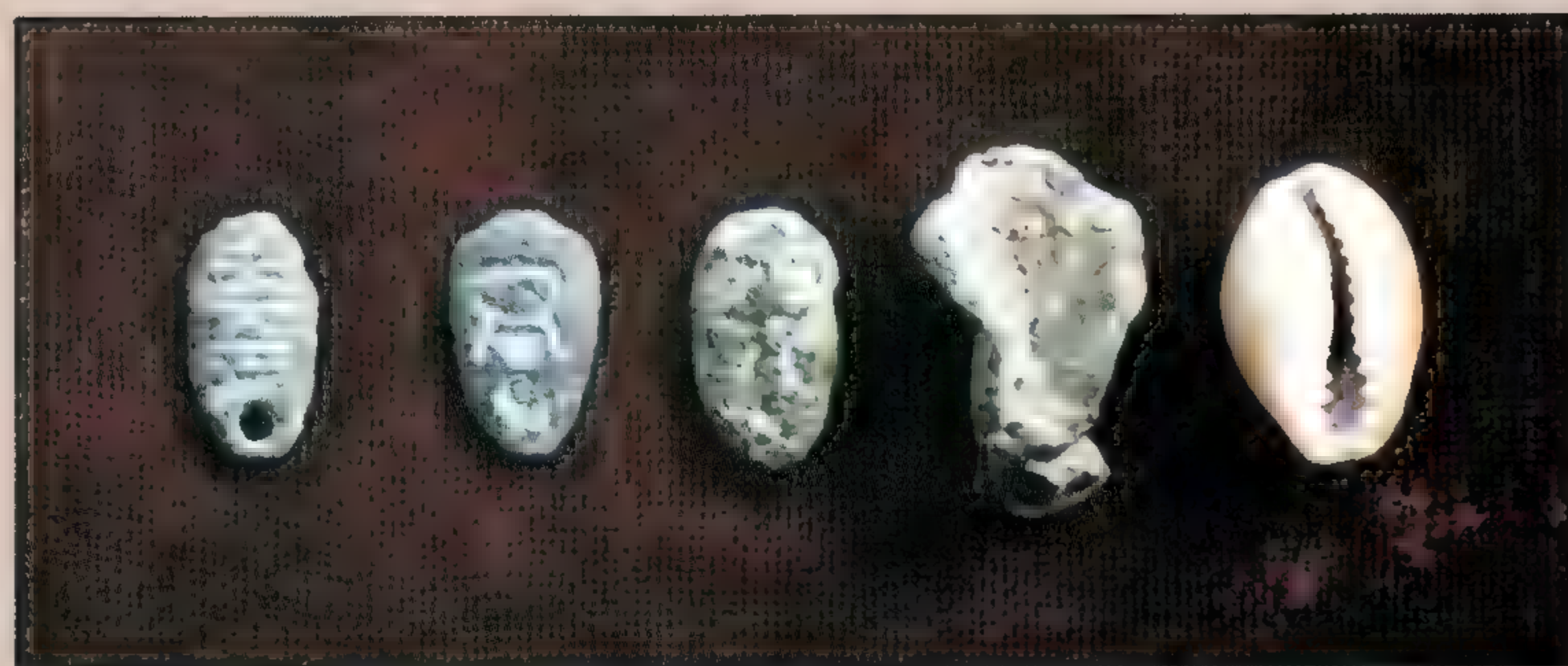


Photo 1

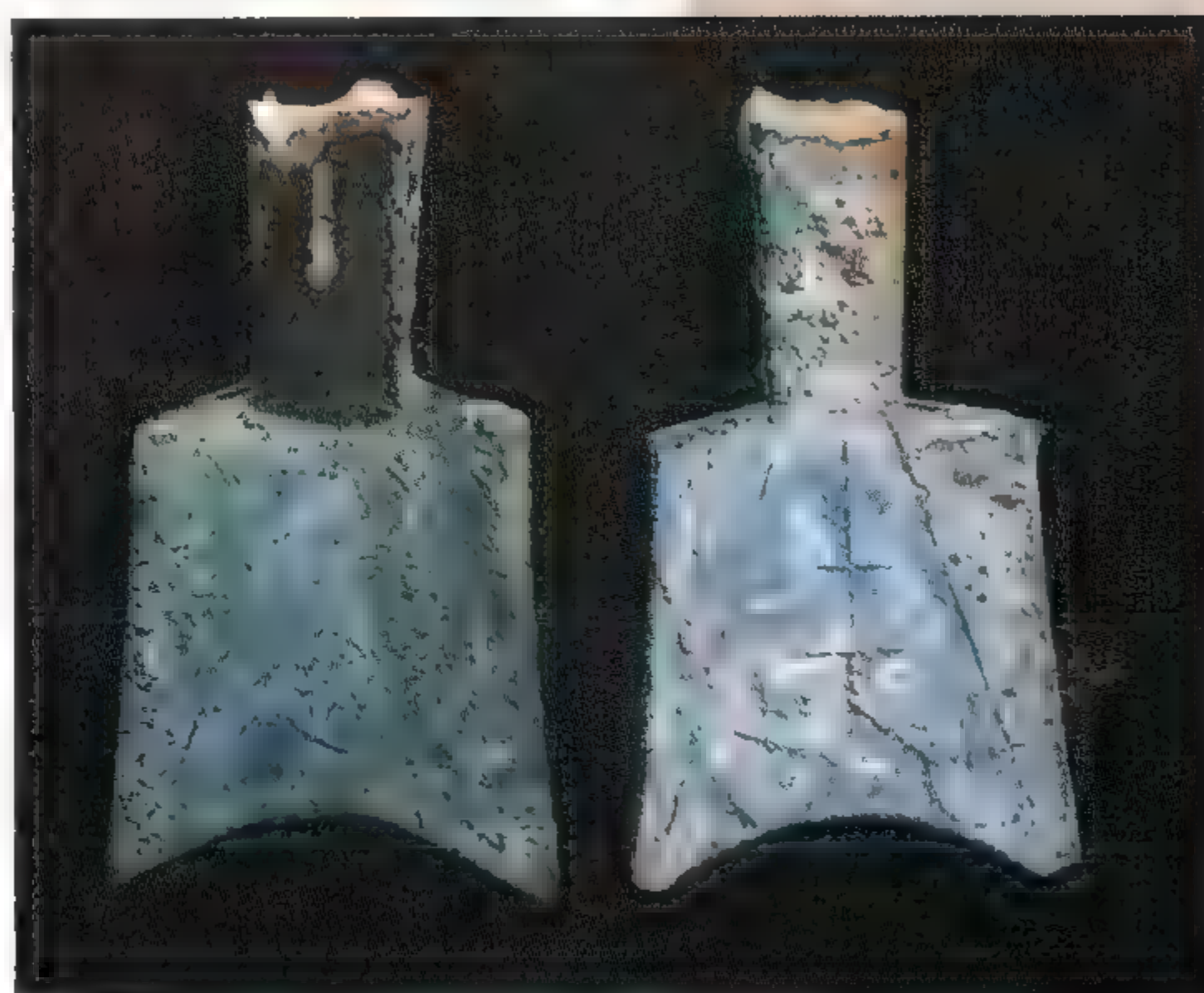


Photo 2

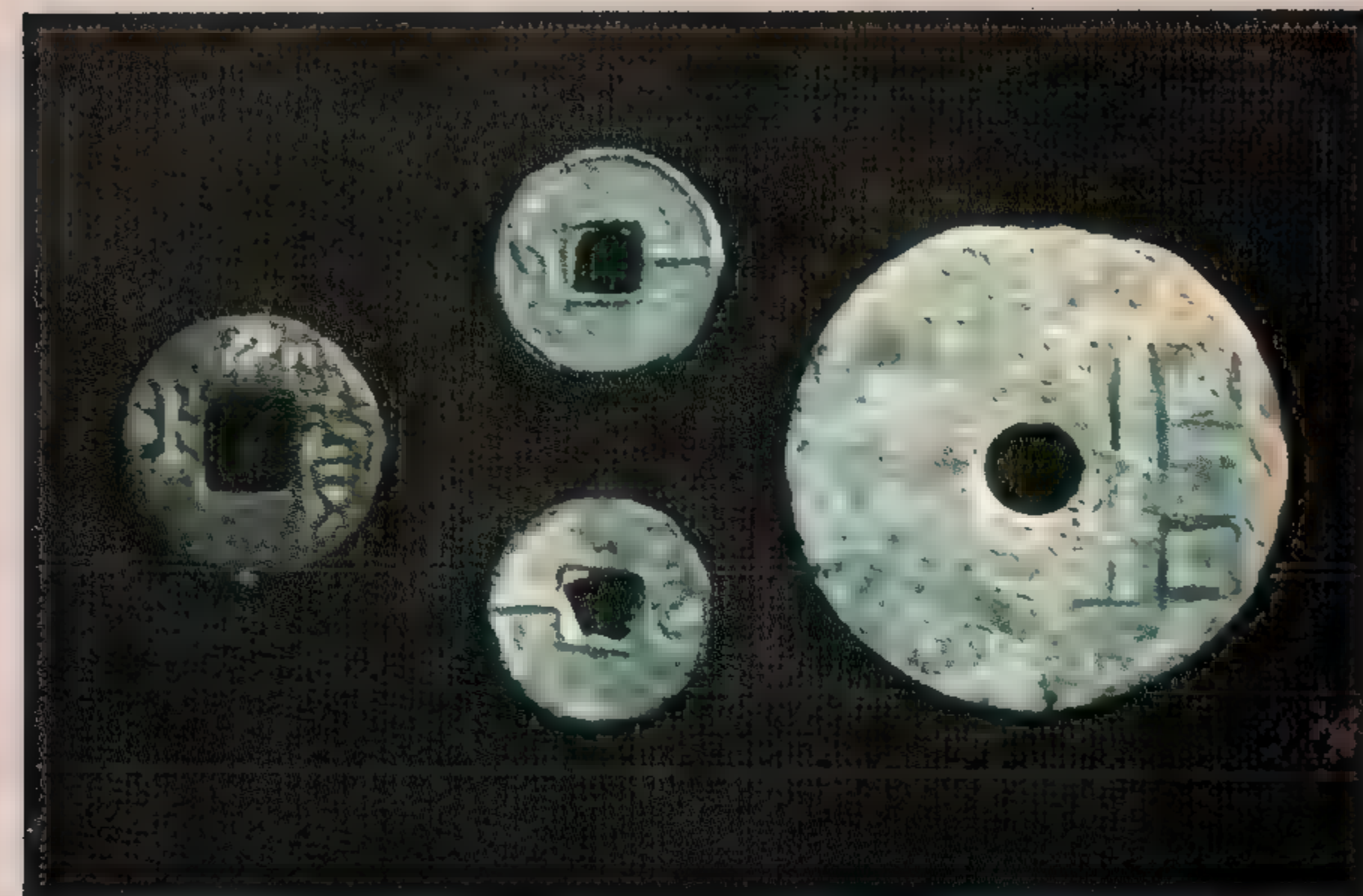


Photo 3



Photo 4



Photo 5

PHOTOES BY LIU RONGHUA
ARTICLE BY NIE GUANGHONG

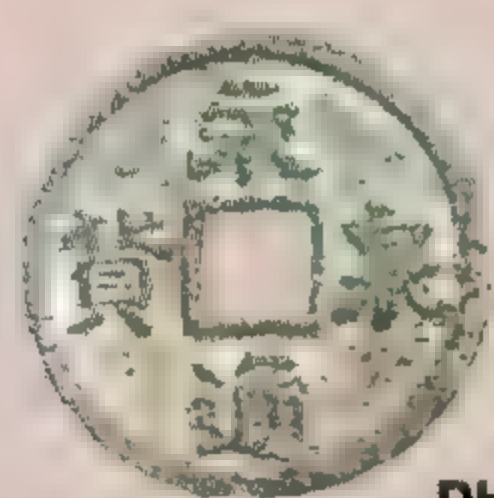


Photo 6



Photo 7



Photo 8



Photo 9



Photo 10



Photo 11

Wang Mang usurped the throne at the end of the Western Han Dynasty in A.D. 7. During his reign, he minted coins in imitation of currencies which existed before the Qin standardization. His monetary policy proved to be a fiscal catastrophe, but the coins themselves were finely pressed, and, hence, widely renowned, as we can see from these specimens in Photo 9. An interesting Jincuo rounded coin with an appendage is extremely rare and is seen in Photo 7.

To all outward appearances, coins change very little during the intervening years. From these representative samples of the Six Dynasties in Photo 10, one can see that the tradition of fine craftsmanship continues during this time, as is evidenced in the clarity and fluidity of the script. There are three examples of what is known as Jade Stroke Style because of their fine strokes resembling the script used in seals. From right to left in the upper row are: a Yongtong Wanguo (International) Coin, from the Northern Zhou, minted in 579; a Wuxing Big Coin, from the Northern Zhou, minted in 574; and a Buquan Coin, cast in 561. Many people regard these as the finest Six Dynasty coins ever made.

There are also other interesting pieces coined during this period. On the extreme left of the top row is a Yong'an Five-Zhu Coin from the Northern Wei, made in 529. In addition from right to left on the bottom row are: a Four-Zhu Coin from the State of Song during the Southern Dynasties, minted in 430; a Taihe Five-Zhu Coin from the Northern Wei, minted in 495; and the Taihuo Six-Zhu Coin from the State of Chen of the Southern Dynasties, pressed in 579. This last example merits additional mention. There is an anecdote which goes that the coin is for mourning the Son of Heaven because the number six here rendered in "big seal" style resembles a person crying with arms akimbo. Some connoisseurs maintain that this is the best crafted coin produced during this period.

The coin at the far left of the bottom row is a Changping Five-Zhu Coin from the Northern Qi which was minted in 553.

The Sui and Tang Dynasties

The Sui Dynasty not only managed to provide a respite from political and social chaos but also further developed the monetary and currency systems. In the upper row at the far right in Photo 11 are Five-Zhu Coins minted in 581, while in the lower row are the so-called "White Coins" minted in 590 by the Emperor Yangdi in Yangzhou, also known as Five-Zhu White Coins.

A quantum leap forward was taken by Emperor Gaozu, the founder of the Tang Dynasty. He abolished the Five-Zhu Coins in 621. Under his rule a coin known as the Kaiyuan Tongbao (Unified Circulating Treasure) was minted. Individual coins were named "Unified Treasure", "Primary Treasure" and "Heavy Treasure".

During the An Lushan-Shi Siming Rebellion (755-763) against the Tang Dynasty, Shi Siming created the Deyi Coin at Luoyang. Coinage here effectively went decimal as one Deyi Coin equalled one hundred Kaiyuan Coins. Later, Shi had a change of heart. Since he thought that the word "Deyi" did not have an auspicious meaning, he substituted the Shuntian. As a result, Deyi Coins are very rare. The large coin in the middle to the right is a Deyi Primary Treasure and the large coin to the left is a Shuntian Primary Treasure. In the upper left corner is a Kaiyuan Tongbao of the Tang Dynasty, minted in 621, while at the lower left is a Qianyuan Zhongbao (Heavy Treasure) of the Tang minted in 759. In Photo 6, we see a well-crafted Yongtong Quanhao (Circulation Treasure) of the Southern Tang Dynasty.

Song Dynasty

The coinage system during the Song Dynasty once again became very complicated. In the first place, the coins include a variety of names, and calligraphy of the script on the coins is not uniform. There can be seen writing in seal script, official script and regular script as well as cursive and running hand inscriptions. The rate of coinage increased twentyfold over that of the Tang. Thus, it is not surprising that the art of coinage reached new heights. The Song coins bear the names of the years coined as well as more diverse calligraphic styles.

The two coins on the left in Photo 15 are rare, and were minted by the Northern Song. At the top is a Kangding Yuanbao of iron, minted in 1040 and the lower one is a Jingkang Yuanbao made of copper coined at the end of the dynasty around 1127.

The single coin in the second column is a Baoqing Yuanbao from the Southern Song, minted in 1225. The coin at the top of the third column is a Qiandao Yuanbao from the Southern Song in 1165. The lower coin in the third column is a Kaixi Tongbao from the Southern Song minted during the period from 1205 to 1207. At the far right column is a Shaoxi Yuanbao from the Southern Song coined sometime between 1190-11914. Beneath this coin is a Qiandao Tongbao from the Southern Song, minted in 1165. For the last two coins the reverse side is shown.

Recently there were a number of iron coins of the Southern Song discovered at Gaoyou in Jiangsu Province. These coins circulated in Sichuan at a much lower value. The variety of coins unearthed at this site surpassed all expectations. Among the new finds are two Qiandao Yuanbao and Qiandao Bei'an (Peace in the Hinterland).

The Liao, The Western Xia and the Jin Dynasties

The Qidans, or Khitans, were nomadic tribesmen before they established the Liao Dynasty. During the period of the Five Dynasties, under the influence of the Han culture, they began to establish an official system of administration and to develop industry, agriculture and commerce. Thus, they needed a medium of exchange. At first, imported coins from the Central Plains served as currency. Later, they began to mint their own coins in both Qidanese and Han Chinese script. Examples of Liao currency are the two small coins to the far right in Photo 17. The top one is a Qingning Tongbao minted in 1055, while the lower one is a Da'an Yuanbao coined in 1085.

The Jin Dynasty (1115-1234) was set up by the Nüzhen people at the end of the Northern Song Dynasty. During its early years, Song and Liao coins were used. It was not until 1157 that they began to mint their own copper coins, which bear Han Chinese characters inscribed with a high degree of skill. The large coin in the centre is a Taihe Zhongbao (Heavy Treasure) minted in 1201 by the Jin Dynasty.

The Western Xia were a regime which occupied an extensive territory including Ningxia, Gansu and western Inner Mongolia. It was once a formidable empire which minted its own iron and copper coins. These coins bear Western Xia and Han Chinese script. The two small coins at the left are from the Western Xia regime. The first is a Huangjian Yuanbao minted in 1210 and the second is a Tiansheng Yuanbao iron coin made in 1149. In Photo 14 is a Da'en Tongbao, the earliest coin minted by the regime with Han Chinese words. It is finely minted.



The coin collector (by Wu Chengjian and Liu Ronghua).



Photo 12



Photo 13



Photo 14



Photo 15



Photo 16



Photo 17

The Coins of Rebellious Factions

In Chinese history there occurred a number of unsuccessful peasant uprisings. At advanced stages, their leaders would create their own currency to consolidate their authority as well as stabilize the economy under their sway. Through wear and tear and for obvious political reasons, most of the coins had fallen out of circulation quickly, but a small number of such specimens have survived to this day. Three samples are included here. On the right in Photo 16 is a Dayi Tongbao. At the end of the Yuan Dynasty, Chen Youliang proclaimed himself emperor at Jiujiang in Jiangxi and minted this coin in 1360.

In the centre is a Tianyou Tongbao. Another would-be dynastic successor to the Yuan, Zhang Shicheng occupied Gaoyou and set up the Great Zhou Dynasty in 1354. Later he changed the name of his regime to Tianyou. He melted down the bronze statue of Buddha in the Chengtian Temple and cast it into Tianyou Coins.

At the far left is a Tianding Tongbao minted by Xu Shouhui, another would-be emperor who tried to overthrow the Yuan Dynasty, in 1359. Poor Xu was finally killed by Chen Youliang's faction.

Modern Coins and Banknotes

Modern coins and banknotes did not appear until the late 19th century. Both types of money showed a distinct Western influence. The coins no longer had the perforation in the middle and the banknotes were printed in colours. The coins more often than not feature the heads of local strongmen who had commissioned their minting, until 1949.


Silver Coins

Photo 12: Upper row, from right to left

- (1) Tibetan silver coin (the smallest ones)
- (2) Silver coin bearing an image of Yuan Shikai's head
- (3) Silver coin bearing an image of Sun Yat-sen's head
- (4) Silver coin from Xinjiang: Guangxu silver coin with words reading Dihua Yiliang (one tael)
- (5) Xinjiang silver coin, one tael: Zuo Zongtang, a warlord, minted this coin in 1875 to pay the soldiers in his army.
- (6) The Great-Qing silver coin was minted in 1911, the last year of the Qing Dynasty.
- (7) Silver coin with the head of Emperor Guangxu (1875-1908)
- (8) Commemorative coin, minted in 1915 to commemorate Tang Jirao's support for the establishment of the Republic (Tang was the governor of Yunnan Province)
- (9) Commemorative coin, minted in 1912 in honour of Li Yuanhong's nomination as the Vice-President of the Republic with its provisional government at Nanjing
- (10) Xuantong Yuanbao: Qing Dynasty, minted by the Wuchang Silver Dollar Bureau in 1893

Paper Money

Photo 13: Left, from up to down

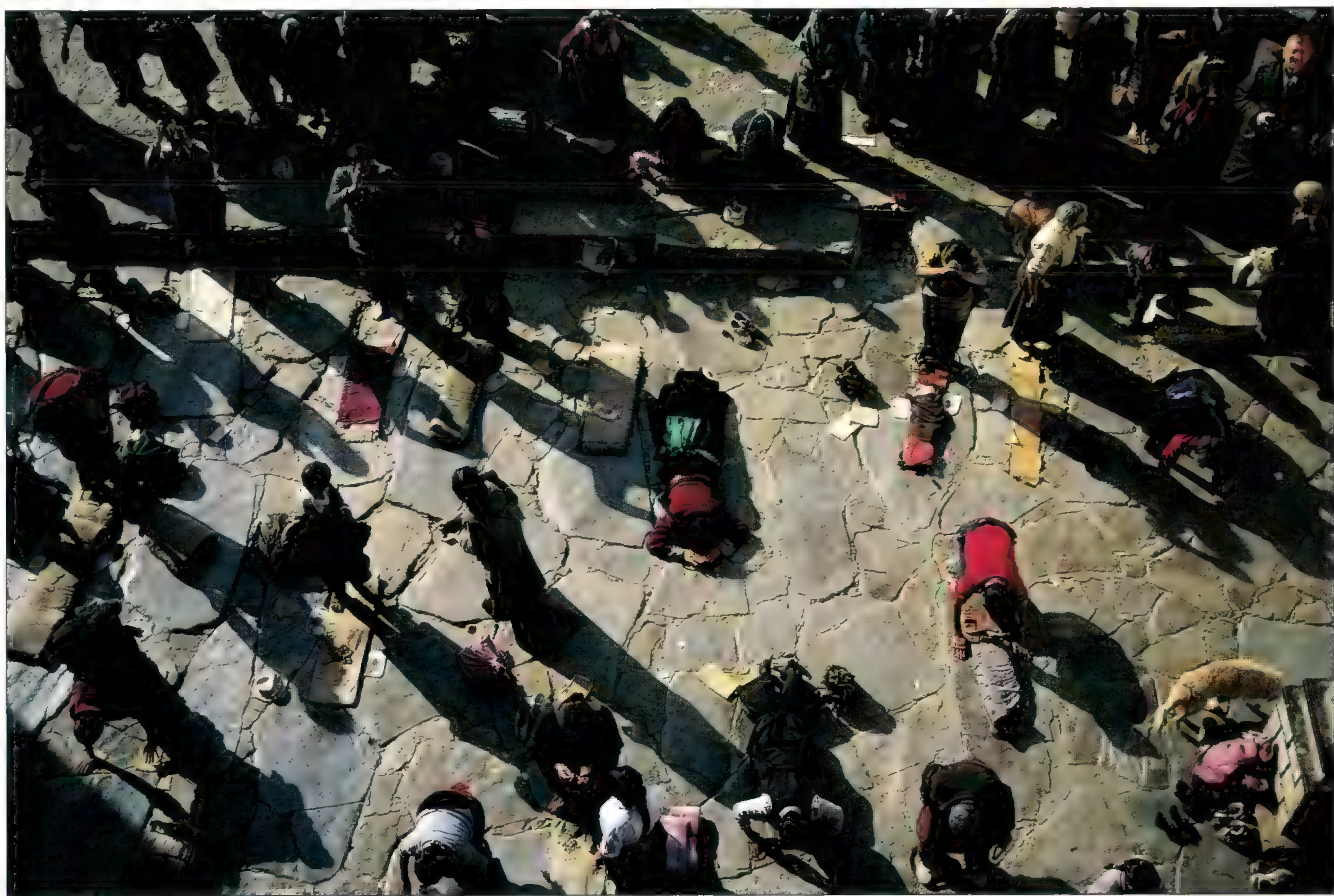
- (1) Banknote with image of Mao Zedong's head issued by the Great Wall Bank in the Liberated Area (1948)
- (2) Gold dollar banknote issued by the Central Bank (1945)
- (3) Gold dollar banknote issued by the Central Bank (1945)
- (4) Associated gold banknote issued by the Central Bank (1947) 

Translated by Gu Weizhou

THE ENDLESS KNOT

BUDDHIST HOLY PLACES IN TIBET

Marianne Kokkinis



Devotions in Jokhang's square



◀ *At Rato, under the comfortable warmth of the afternoon sun*

▼ *Street performer*



For the last thirteen centuries, all the peoples of the high Himalayan plateaux have been undertaking pilgrimages to Lhasa, the holy city in Tibet. In their thousands, they have filled the roads and pathways, resting wherever they could find shelter. On foot they have always come, thereby earning merit and succour from the gods. And because motorized transport is lacking, their journey can stretch for as long as three or more years.

On the Lingkhör Path, the route of pilgrimage around Lhasa, the faithful, prayer wheels in their hands and mantras on their lips, form an endless stream to the unceasing murmuring of sacred incantations repeated countless times. Their goal is the Jokhang, Tibet's oldest and most revered monastery. The oldest part of the Jokhang was built by Songtsen Gampo (609-649), the first Buddhist king of the region, and houses the holy of holies, the statue of Jowo, the historical Buddha. For Tibetans, it is more than simply a representation; it is the total embodiment of their centuries-old faith. It is the oldest and most precious object in Tibet.

Within the temple square, only the rubbing sound of pieces of wood, leather or old shoes in the pilgrims' hands as they prostrate themselves can be heard. The palms of their hands joined in fervour above their head, then before their face and breast, they stretch out full-length on the ground, their arms held in front so that their whole body might be in direct contact with the sacred earth. Standing up once more they repeat their actions untiringly and so repetitively at times that a thickening of the skin on the forehead often develops.

In the countless rooms of the awesome Potala, the residence of the Dalai Lamas

rising more than 300 metres, the pilgrims move forward in Indian file. Each of them feeds the lamps burning before the statues of divinities with a little butter brought from his or her native place. This offering, like all the others, is a means of giving of oneself in an act of pure generosity.

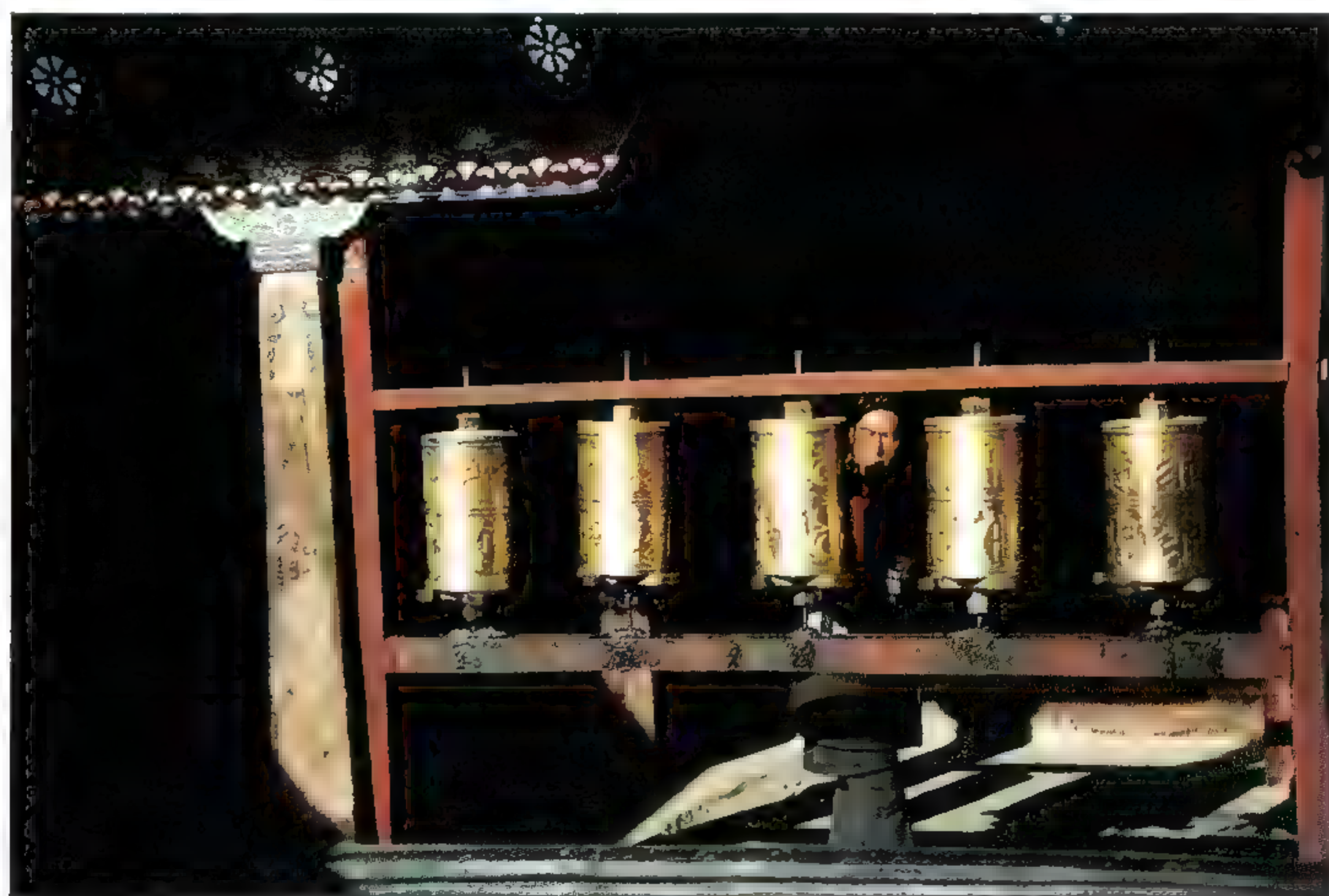
Around the Jokhang, in the great Barkhor bazaar, the swarming, chattering crowd jostles each other. This is Lhasa's most Tibetan quarter. The capital is, in effect, undergoing "modernization", with concrete buildings replacing those of the old city. Military and goods lorries drive beside bicycles and pushbikes past the carefully aligned iron-roofed houses.

It is here at the Barkhor that the old Tibet can still be found. People of all ethnic backgrounds can be found here, buying, selling, praying or playing a musical instrument. The old people have sun-tanned faces and deep wrinkles caused by the

harsh climate and the cold gives a red glow to the cheeks of the women and children.

Here, some villagers from Changtang in the cold plateau of the north, dressed in sheepskins brightened up with bands of coloured cloth material, are ambling along with their goats. There, some Khampas, nomadic shepherds of eastern Tibet, rugged warriors distinguished by their head ornament consisting of numerous red threads plaited into their hair, but more by their wild and proud demeanour, step along proudly with a knife at their belts. Some Kham women have their hair plaited into one hundred and eight plaits (a sacred number equal to the number of sutras), tied together by little coloured ribbons. As all Tibetans, they are passionately fond of jewellery made of turquoise, amber and coral set in silver. Seated on the ground, a group of Ngolog nomads from Amdo enjoy the warmth of the afternoon sun. A little

Woman with spinning wheel



A row of prayer wheels at the Sera Monastery

further away, people from the Yarlung valley on the southern Tibetan plain, dressed in long embroidered robes and wearing hats made of fox fur, are buying prayer flags, which, having been blessed, will protect their homes in their far-off village.

In one of the hearths which surround the temple, a Droopa nomad is lighting some sprigs of juniper, the aroma of their wafting smoke mingling with the pervasive smell of the yak butter. Indifferent to the affluence displayed in the booths full of all manner of products imported from elsewhere, some monks, in their garnet-red robes, are reciting sacred texts. Farmers from Tsant, graziers from Litang and countless others, have all come to prostrate themselves in the ochre-coloured dust of Lhasa, under a

deep blue sky which lends a velvet background to the mountains which also provides a sparkling whiteness to the limewashed walls of the houses.

Some pilgrims are pursuing their devotions at the Sera Monastery situated three kilometres from Lhasa. Traditionally housing nearly six thousand monks, it was famous for its tantric teachings. It was established by a disciple of the founder, Tsong Khapa, of the Yellow Hat sect in 1419.

At Rato and Pabunka, serenity and calm reign. The small villages hugging these monasteries are built of unbaked bricks or rammed earth. The harmony attaching to them owes much to the Tibetan architecture. The walls built without mortar, slope

about four or five degrees. The doors enliven the whiteness of the walls with their contrasting lively colours, to which sometimes there is a representation of the moon, the symbol of peace, in the centre of the doorframe. The lintels, bearing small flaps of material or wood fretwork, cast lacy shadows in the sunlight.

On the roofs of the houses, on every hill-top or any other place which catches the wind, prayer flags bearing images of the Horse of Wind, carry off at each flutter to the gods the prayers of the Tibetans. They protect the Roof of the World and accompany in space the wishes for happiness for all beings.

The children play in the lanes, men sit spinning according to the ages-old way of their ancestors, or weave wool on rudimentary looms. Others busily churn butter in long copper-bound wooden churns. Women sit spindling at spinning wheels or adjust the kettles on the big solar-powered burners which, in less than an hour, will furnish them with the hot water necessary for their tea.

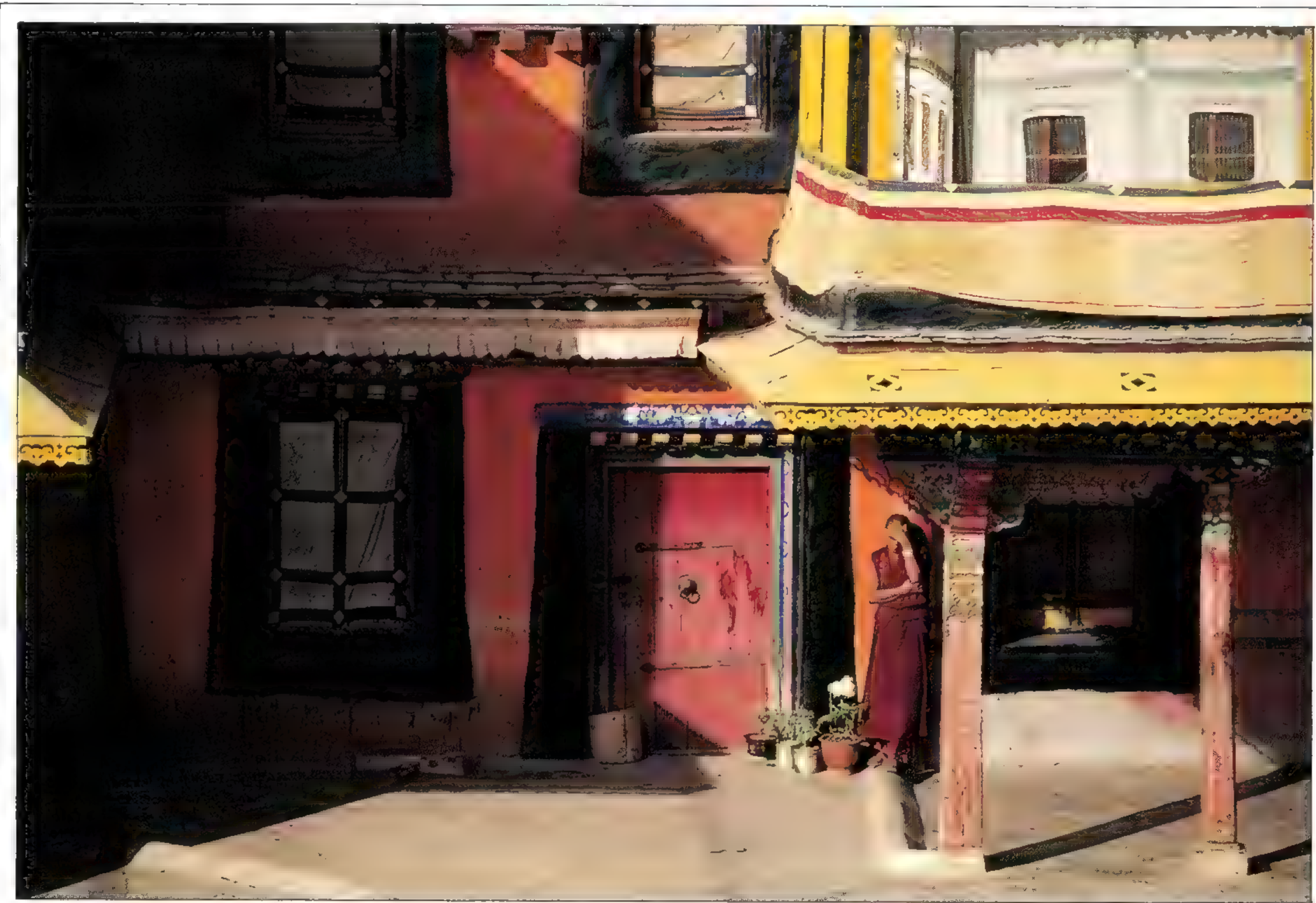
Translated by P. Gardner

The traveller there will experience a world in harmony with genuine movements and ancestral traditions. Everywhere you will be met with smiles. In the Jokhang, such is the religious energy pervading the place that you feel it is almost tangible. The children are delighted to be allowed to look through the viewfinder of your camera and what joy they show if you permit them to press the button! If inspired by what you experience, you wish to do something, buy a gemstone or a knife, a bowl of tea or, a sprig of juniper, which by its lingering aroma will take your imagination back to the Land of Snows when you burn it when you are back in your own homeland.

The Tibetans are very often willing to let you photograph them, but there are places and certain individuals which one should not try to record photographically. Respect their beliefs, for in this way you will really discover this region, its people and the beauty of both.



Wall of 1,000 Buddhas containing various manifestations of the Buddha



Jokhang's roof



Hotels and Guesthouses in Hangzhou

ARTICLE BY CHEN MINGZHAO

Six or seven years ago, it was quite a headache to find a room vacancy in Hangzhou during the height of the tourist season. The situation is quite different now. At present, there are three joint-venture hotels providing one thousand more guest rooms. Besides this the different guesthouses all have their specialities and tourists now have more choices.

After an half-hour taxi ride from the airport, we arrived at the Friendship Hotel, a Sino-Japanese joint venture which opened in October, 1986. This 3-star hotel is situated at the centre of the city, only 300 metres from the famous West Lake, making transportation, sightseeing and shopping very convenient. Stepping into the hotel immediately makes you feel welcome. The service team here speaks Japanese and English. Japanese tourists very much like to stay here and so it is easy to strike up a conversation. Besides the Chinese and Western Restaurants, the only Japanese Restaurant in town can be found here. And Korean barbecue is another option for the diners. Although the hotel has only 224 rooms, it offers conference facilities and multi-function halls. The main building measures 70.5 metres in height. From the 18th floor roof-top, you can gain a bird's-eye view of the beautiful West Lake, the smooth Qiantang River and the whole city.

A few hundred metres away from the Friendship Hotel is the Xinqiao Hotel which is located at the commercial area of the city

centre. This is a Hangzhou-Hong Kong joint-venture 3-star hotel, and has more than 380 rooms. Compared with the Friendship Hotel, the Xinqiao Hotel offers a more casual ambience to make guests feel more at ease, and the price is reasonable. There are many conference rooms of different sizes; its multi-function hall holds three hundred persons and medium-sized and small-sized conferences are often held here.

Certainly, the hotel most frequented by Hong Kong and Macau tourists and overseas Chinese is the Hangzhou Overseas Chinese Hotel which has more than 360 rooms. This 3-star hotel has been in operation for more than thirty years, but its facilities have all been newly renovated. Its service is warm and professional. This hotel benefits not only from its experience, but also from its advantageous position: facing the West Lake with the city at its back. Its average annual occupancy reaches 90 per cent.

Next to the Overseas Chinese Hotel is the 7-year-old 3-star Wanghu Hotel. While it has nearly the same scale as the Overseas Chinese Hotel, its business is also quite brisk. From its restaurant on the top floor (the 8th floor), the view of the West Lake is a special delight.

In the city, there is another new hotel. It is the biggest and also the only 4-star hotel in the whole city of Hangzhou and the whole province of Zhejiang — the Dragon Hotel. It is situated at the Shuguang Road near the Yellow Dragon Cave, jointly invested by enterprises from Hangzhou and Hong Kong, and managed by the New World Hotels International. There are 555 rooms and a Presidential Suite. Its architectural style is the classic garden style typical in the Jiangnan (south of the Yangtse River) region with its quiet environment tastefully and comfortably laid out. Besides the normal hotel facilities, there are many recreational facilities for spending one's holidays leisurely. The restaurant is special in providing cuisines of Hangzhou, Guangdong, Sichuan and even Western cuisine and buffet. No matter whether they are from the West or from Hong Kong, Macau or Taiwan, those who are more particular about their hotel are willing to spend their holidays here.

There is one common advantage shared by all the hotels situated in the scenic region of the West Lake — a beautiful environment. With the only disadvantage of transportation, business is still good for these hotels. Next to the Yue Fei Temple on the Beishan Street, the Shangri-La Hotel, Hangzhou is the place of ac-

commodation for many persons of a certain status. It was frequent for state guests or foreign leaders to stay here in the 50s and 60s. This old hotel with fewer than 400 rooms can be found in the green wood facing Gushan Hill at the West Lake, and the Qu Yuan Fenghe Park. Ever since the hotel has been managed by the Shangri-La International Hotels, the quality of service has become widely acknowledged. If not for the lack of some public facilities, the hotel can be rated 4-star.

In the Xishan region are the Zhejiang Guesthouse, Huagang Hotel and Huajianshan Hotel. Due to reasons of transportation, they mostly accommodate tour groups and conference representatives. The three hotels are not large in scale, with the number of rooms around 200 and rated 3-star or less. The garden-style architecture and fresh environment at these establishments are unmatched by the hotels in the city.

The two hotels with the most pleasant environment in Hangzhou are the Hangzhou Xihu State Hotel and the Xizi Guesthouse. Occupying the precious land near the West Lake, the two hotels are at Mount Dingjia on the west side of the West Lake and Mount Xizhao on the south side respectively. The Hangzhou Xihu State Hotel was formerly called the Liuzhuang Villa, the biggest and the most splendid among all the gardens and villas in the history of the West Lake, with the fame of being "The Most Famous Garden of the West Lake". With its back to the mountains and facing the lake, the hotel has a pleasant environment. Former Chairman Mao Zedong often stayed here when visiting Hangzhou. Former American President Richard Nixon and former Yugoslavian President Tito have also stayed here. The Xizi Guesthouse is the erstwhile famous Wangzhuang Villa inside which are relics of the mythical Leifeng Pagoda. Mao Zedong had also stayed here. Therefore, these two hotels still preserve the former residence of Mao Zedong. It is a pity that tourists travelling independently cannot set foot in these two hotels which serve only tour groups and conference representatives in addition to state guests.

Apart from the above hotels and guesthouses, there are some other hotels and guesthouses of lower grades providing other choices for practical tourists. Examples are the Hangzhou Tower, the Hangzhou International Mansion, the Zhongshan Hotel, the Zhijiang Guesthouse and the Qingbo Guesthouse.

Translated by Annette Lee

Major Hotels in Hangzhou

Dragon Hotel

杭州黃龍飯店



Shuguang Rd, Hangzhou, Zhejiang 310007
Tel: 554488 Telex: 351048 DRAGN CN Fax: 558090
GM: Albert Poon
Opened 21 April 1988
557 rooms and suites Rates: Double US\$100 (+15%), deluxe US\$110 (+15%), deluxe suite US\$220 (+15%)
Located in the northwestern part of the city centre, 14 km from the airport, 7 km from the railway station
Taxi fare: FEC ¥ 25 to the airport, FEC ¥ 13 to the railway station
Facilities: Business centre, Chinese and Western restaurants, karaoke, disco, conference room, ballroom, swimming pool, billiards, tennis courts, beauty salon, shopping arcade, massage, sauna, baby sitting service, bicycle rental

Friendship Hotel Hangzhou

杭州友好飯店



53 Pinghai Rd, Hangzhou, Zhejiang 310006
Tel: (0571) 777888 Telex: 35068 FRISH CN Fax: (0571) 773842
GM: Wu Qiyuan
Opened 6 October 1986
224 rooms and suites
Located in the city centre, 15 km/30 min from the airport, 3 km from the railway station
Facilities: Chinese, Japanese and Western restaurants, disco, art gallery, beauty salon, massage, business centre, multi-function room, shopping arcade

Hangzhou International Mansion

杭州國際大廈

157 Tiychang Rd, Hangzhou, Zhejiang 310006
Tel: 556224, 555724 Telex: 35029 BZIB CN Fax: 574201
GM: Xia Yucheng
296 rooms and suites Rates: Double FEC ¥ 140, suite FEC ¥ 220

Hangzhou Overseas Chinese Hotel

杭州華僑飯店

15 Hubin Rd, Hangzhou, Zhejiang 310006
Tel: (0571) 774401 or 774953 Telex: 35070 HOCH CN Fax: (0571) 774978

GM: Xu Bingsheng
300 rooms and suites Rates: US\$40/45
Located in the city centre, 13 km from the airport, 4 km from the railway station
Facilities: Shopping arcade, Chinese and Western restaurants

Hangzhou Tower

杭州大廈

1 Wulin Square, Hangzhou, Zhejiang 310006
Tel: 553911 Telex: 351008 HZB CN Fax: 570062
GM: Zhou Shunnan
139 rooms and suites Rates: Double US\$36, suite US\$50/100
Located in the city centre, 12 km from the airport, 5 km from the railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, shopping centre, exhibition centre, business centre, billiard room, gym, dancing hall

Hangzhou Xihu State Hotel

杭州西湖國賓館

7 Xishan Rd, Hangzhou, Zhejiang 310007
Tel: 776889 Telex: 35004 BTHXH CN Fax: 772348
113 rooms and suites
Located 7 km from the city centre, 20 km from the airport, 9 km from the railway station
Facilities: Restaurant, cinema, massage, car rental

Hangzhou Zhijiang Hotel

杭州之江飯店

84 Moganshan Rd, Hangzhou, Zhejiang 310005
Tel: 882924
GM: Chen Fangruo
576 rooms and suites Rates: Double FEC ¥ 140, suite FEC ¥ 250
Located 12 km from the airport, 6 km from the railway station

Huagang Hotel

花港飯店



4 Xishan Rd, Hangzhou, Zhejiang 310007
Tel: 771324 Telex: 35007 HUAJG CN Fax: 772481
GM: Wan Yidi
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, karaoke, massage

Huajiashan Hotel

花家山賓館



Photo by Peng Zheng

12 Faxiang Lane, Xishan Rd, Hangzhou 310007
Tel: 771224 Telex: 35063 HJSGH CN Fax: 773980
GM: Fu Shui Gen
Opened 18 October 1981
196 rooms and suites Rates: FEC ¥ 110-1200
Located southwest of the West Lake, 15 km from the airport, 7 km from the railway station
Facilities: Shopping arcade, beauty salon, massage, conference room, health club, karaoke, games room, multi-function hall

Shangri-La Hotel, Hangzhou

杭州香格里拉飯店

78 Beishan Rd, Hangzhou, Zhejiang 310007
Tel: 777951 Telex: 35005/6 HOTCH CN Fax: 773545
387 rooms
Distance from airport: 40 min
Facilities: Chinese restaurant, business centre, beauty salon, shopping arcade, meeting and banquet rooms, ballroom, function rooms

Wang Hu Hotel

望湖賓館

2 West Huancheng Rd, Hangzhou, Zhejiang 310006
Tel: 771024, 771942 Telex: 351029 WHBG CN Fax: (0571) 771350
GM: Guo Kaizhong
356 rooms and suites Rates: Double FEC ¥ 280, suite FEC ¥ 488, deluxe suite FEC ¥ 500-1000
Located on the east side of the West Lake, 14 km from the airport, 4 km from the railway station
Facilities: Restaurants, banquet halls, multi-function rooms

Xin Qiao Hotel

杭州新橋飯店



176 Jie Fang Rd, Hangzhou, Zhejiang 310001
Tel: 776688 Telex: 351028 XQH CN Fax: (0571) 722768
Opened 28 March 1990
381 rooms and suites Rates: Single US\$45, double US\$45-80, suite US\$120-150
Located in the business and cultural centre, 12 km from the airport, 2 km from the railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, disco, karaoke, games room, beauty salon, business centre, multi-function hall, billiards, ballroom

Xizi Guesthouse

西子賓館

37 Nanshan Rd, Hangzhou, Zhejiang 310007
Tel: 23577 Telex: 351085 XICI CN
120 rooms

Zhejiang Guesthouse

浙江賓館

68 Santaishan Rd, Hangzhou, Zhejiang 310007
Tel: 777988 Telex: 35044 ZJGH CN Fax: 771904
GM: Zhang Xinrong
175 rooms
Facilities: Shopping arcade, convention hall, indoor swimming pool



Silk and Capital and Its Silk



Photo by Ma Yiu Chun



Photo by Lou Guoping

ARTICLE BY CHEN MINGZHAO

Hangzhou is the silk capital of China and famed also for the beauty of its West Lake. When a European tourist group recently arrived in the city, it was asked whether it would like to see the Hangzhou United Silk Printing and Dyeing Factory or the West Lake. The group, which had only half-a-day for sightseeing, opted for the silk factory unanimously. And with good reason. Hangzhou has a long history in the production of silk. Hangzhou, Jiaxing and Huzhou were known for the manufacture of silk woven fabrics more than 4,000 years ago. Hangzhou became a major city along China's southeast coast during the Tang Dynasty (618-907) with a booming silk industry. Hangzhou's reputation spread far and wide as a source of silk, satin and brocade, to the extent that her silk became tribute to the emperor. By the 12th century when the Southern Song Dynasty had its capital in Hangzhou, the silk industry spiraled. There were over 30 different kinds of silk woven here. The quality of her silk was said to have been "the best under Heaven". Ming (1368-1644) and Qing (1644-1911) Dynasties witnessed the apex of Hangzhou silk production. From that time onward Hangzhou earned its reputation as the silk capital of China.

On entering the Hangzhou silk market you will find a great variety of products in a wide spectrum of colours. Hangzhou silk goods are divided into 15 categories, including silk gauze, damask, camlet, crêpe, spun silk, satin, velvet, brocade and more. There are 200 varieties and over 2,000 patterns.

Satin is known for its shiny surface and close weave. Silk gauze is as thin as the cicada's wing. Raw silk fabric is light and elegant. Silk crêpe is elastic. Velvet is colourful and sensuous.

Silk goods of various descriptions cater to different uses and serve different purposes. They are made into outer and inner garments, quilt covers, pillow cases, etc. Another use is for interior decoration. Light to the touch, silk is a very comfortable wear. If you buy silk

goods, wear them or otherwise use them to decorate your room, you give people the impression that what you wear or decorate is in good taste. In our modern life people still prefer silk to any other fabric because it offers all the advantages while one has yet to find its disadvantage to the user or wearer.

Of all Hangzhou silk goods, tapestry satin and Suzhou satin jacquard woven fabric have enjoyed the longest good reputation in the international and domestic market. Soft satin and pure silk quilt cover as well as jacquard woven with silk thread are items in hot demand in silk shops. Among Hangzhou exports pure silk crêpe woven goods are big sellers.

In recent years export of Hangzhou silk dresses have greatly increased, with sand-washed silk becoming more popular. Export of silk from Hangzhou now accounts for one tenth of total silk production by China. Hangzhou silk goods take the lead for their high quality, 60 kinds of goods having receiving awards for quality since 1979.

Dujinsheng Silk Factory

Of all Hangzhou export items the most renowned are silk handicrafts by Dujinsheng Silk Factory described by art connoisseurs abroad as the "Wondrous Flower of the Orient". The factory was founded in 1922 by Du Jinsheng, a native of Hangzhou who initiated a product of silk-woven landscapes of Hangzhou's Ten Views of the West Lake. He succeeded in increasing the variety of this product ever since. In the World's Fair held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in the United States during 1926, Du Jinsheng's product won a gold medal and has enjoyed an excellent worldwide reputation ever since. At present the factory, the largest of its kind in China, not surprisingly has the largest output of silk handicraft goods as well. The factory has imported a set of advanced weaving machines as well as a computer aided design system. To the credit of the enterprise is the introduction of modern management methods, resulting in the improved quality of its products. These enhancements enabled the factory to win yet again ten prizes for the quality of its goods in more recent years.

Apart from silk-woven landscapes the factory makes tablecloths, cushions, bedspreads, curtains and more — all of silk material, totalling 120 varieties with 1,200 patterns, which enjoy a good market in 80 countries and regions across the globe.

Hangzhou United Silk Printing and Dyeing Factory

Tourists to Hangzhou usually pay visits to the Hangzhou United Silk Printing and Dyeing Factory, after having opted to buy its goods. They want to see for themselves the actual process of making silk. Regarded as the pearl of Chinese silk industry the factory is at the terminus of the Beijing-Hangzhou Grand Canal, linking the silk capital of Hangzhou with the administrative capital of China, Beijing. It is the largest enterprise in silk printing and dyeing in the country, equipped with the most complete equipment, since it is one of the base areas of Chinese silk export.

The factory now boasts an output of over 200 tons of raw silk plus 12,000,000 metres of silk piece goods. Over 40,000,000 metres of silk goods are printed here. Pure silk ties, scarves painted by hand or in long narrow strips, handkerchiefs, dresses made of pure silk — these, too, are being produced by the factory, where a complete production line sees to it that a cocoon enters the factory, goes through silk reeling, weaving, printing and dyeing as well as back tendering. Having seen this interesting process of silk manufacture, visitors are always tempted to buy silk goods at the business department on the factory premises as souvenirs before leaving the factory gate. The factory now enjoys good sales in 70 countries and regions worldwide. Its crêpe tops the list of silk exports from China.

Tourists can now enjoy an added attraction — they can visit the China Silk Museum in Hangzhou, presently opened there. Don't miss the chance to see it when you come to Hangzhou to acquaint yourself with knowledge of silk making in its entirety as well as its history. ☐

Translated by He Fei

品質超羣

山西板石

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Ten Views of the West Lake

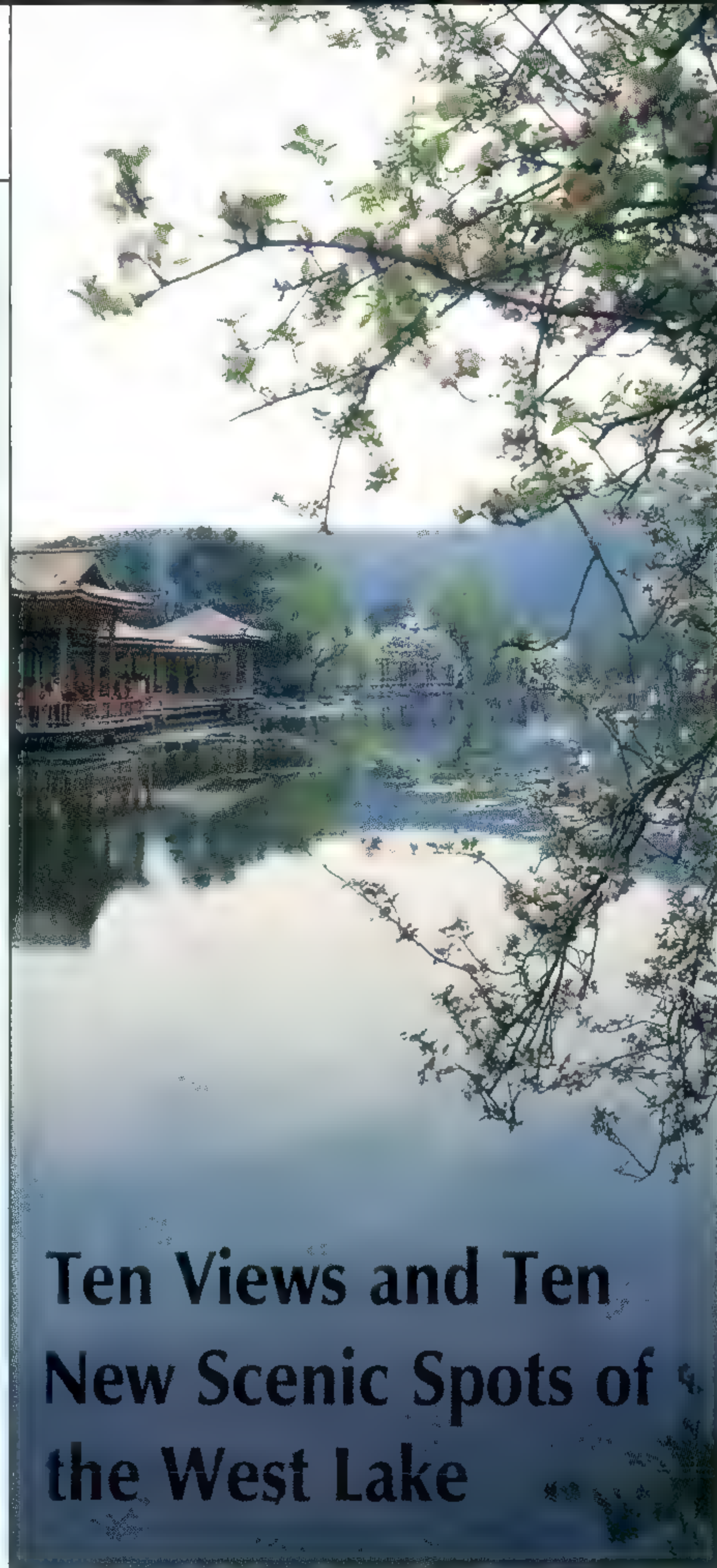
Spring Dawn at the Su Causeway Joining the Beishan Road in the north and the Nanshan Road in the south, the 2.8-kilometre-long Su Causeway on the west part of West Lake was originally built with silt from the lake when the Song Dynasty (960-1279) official, Su Dongpo, then Prefect of Hangzhou, had the lake dredged. The causeway is a tranquil and beautiful place with peach and willow trees planted alternately along its entire length. The seven sections of the causeway are linked by six stone arch bridges, which are undulating and add some variation to what otherwise might be a monotonously long straight thoroughfare.

The embankment, which cuts across the lake, is now asphalted. It has on both sides wide stretches of lawn dotted with various flowers and trees. There are long benches at regular intervals, providing resting places in this quiet area.

The scenery in the Su Causeway varies not only in the four seasons but even from morning to evening in one day. The views in sunny, cloudy, rainy and snowy days are all very interesting. Especially beautiful is that in the morning during spring, when the surface of the lake is veiled in mist and the willow trees seem to be among the clouds, hence the name "Spring Dawn at the Su Causeway".

(The southern end of the causeway is accessible by the No. 4 Bus, or by boat to the eastern gate of the Park of Watching Goldfish at Flower Harbour. And the northern end is by the No. 7 Bus to the stop at Yue Fei's Tomb.)

Listening to Orioles Singing in the Waving Willows This view is situated on the south-eastern bank of the West Lake and used to be an imperial garden during the Southern Song Dynasty (1127-1279). There used to be a Liulang (Waving Willows) Bridge. Weeping willows form a green curtain ringing the lake. In spring, when breezes sway the weeping willows, from time to time orioles can be heard singing in the dense twigs. Hence the name "Listening to Orioles Singing in the Waving Willows". The park has already extended from its original small area into a large park with an area of 17 hectares also open at night. The park embraces four



Ten Views and Ten New Scenic Spots of the West Lake

Watching Goldfish at Flower Harbour (by Ren Jing)

scenic spots, namely: Friendship, the First Listening to Orioles Singing, Scenery Assembly and South Garden.

(The park can be reached by Bus No. 4, No. 8 and No. 30.)

Watching Goldfish at Flower Harbour Situated at the southern end of the Su Causeway and at the southern foot of West Hill, the park is the largest grade-one park in the West Lake area. The place is named Huagang or Flower Harbour because in ancient times there was a stream running from the Huajia (Flower Family) Hill into the West Lake.

Fish in the water are of course the focus of views in this scenic spot. Across the lawn is the fish pond, where visitors gather around, throwing in food, which lures the fish into jumping and chasing each other for morsels. The pavilion and fish pond were built during the Qing Dynasty.

(The Huagang Park is reached by the No. 4 Bus to the Su Causeway, or by boat to the Flower Harbour.)

Autumn Moon Over the Calm Lake Situated at the west end of the Bai Causeway, the site is a small peninsula at the foot of Solitary Hill. During the Tang Dynasty (618-907), there was a Lake Viewing Pavilion here. In front of the building, a terrace was built almost level with the lake water for enjoying the scenery. On the terrace there is

a pavilion with a stele put up by Emperor Qianlong. A most picturesque scene is at night in autumn, when a bright moon hangs in the sky, hence the name.

(Access to this spot is by Bus No. 7, No. 27 and No. 16 buses from the Children's Palace Square, or boat from the lakeside.)

Three Pools Mirroring the Moon This scenic spot is around the Lesser Yingzhou islet, one of the three islets in the West Lake. The islet was originally formed by piling the silt dredged from the lake in 1607. Later, dykes were built around the islet and now it is described as "a lake within a lake, and an islet within an islet". The beautiful islet is named after a fairy island in the East Sea in classical Chinese legend. With its crisscrossing bridge, waterside pavilions, green louts, leaves and beautiful lotus blossoms, the scenery is rich in variety and deep in artistic conception.

Three beautifully shaped stone stupas rise from the water south of the Lesser Yingzhou Islet. They used to mark the limits of the deep-water area during the dredging organized by Su Dongpo. The present stupas were rebuilt during the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644). In autumn, when the bright moon hangs in the sky, if lamps are lit inside the stupas and the round holes are covered with thin paper, then the reflections of the lights on the water seem to be three reflections of the moon. It is a most enchanting sight.

(The site is reached by boats from the No. 1, No. 3, Zhongshan Park or Huagang Park wharfs.)

Sunset at Leifeng Pagoda There used to be a pagoda on the Xizhao (Evening Sunlight) Hill. The pagoda was built in 975 to celebrate the birth of a son by a concubine of the king of the Wuyue State (907-978). So it was named Yellow Concubine Pagoda. Later people called it after the Leifeng Hill on which it stood. When the setting sun cast light on the pagoda, the towering pagoda looked particularly splendid covered with green ivy and golden rays of the sun. The original pagoda had 13 storeys and people could climb up to the top storey. After it was destroyed by fire and later rebuilt during the Ming Dynasty, it became a seven-storey structure. In a subsequent reconstruction it was turned into a five-storey octagonal one.

Since the foundation of the pagoda had been gradually hollowed out by the local people to take away the bricks, the pagoda collapsed on the afternoon of September 25, 1924. Consequently, now there is only the name of the scene left.

Evening Chimes at Nanping Hill The name refers to the bell in the Jingci Temple at the foot of the Nanping Hill.



Photo by Wang Jinqiu

Built in 954, the temple was first named Yongming Buddhist Temple. During the Southern Song Dynasty it was named Jingci Buddhist Temple. It was one of the four Buddhist monasteries in the West Lake area. This site is opposite to the former Leifeng Pagoda across the road. These two scenic spots offered the most charming evening scenes among the Ten Views of the West Lake.

(The No. 4 Bus stopping at the lakeside or Yan'an Road Central reaches this scenic spot.)

Last Snow on the Broken Bridge The Broken Bridge is at the city end of the Bai Causeway and is the watershed between the Outer Lake and the Inner Lake. The bridge is so named because the road from the Solitary Hill is broken here. The stone arch bridge used to have steps and a small pavilion in its middle section. The name of the scene was derived from the fact that on snowy days, the snow on the sunny exposure of the bridge melted while that in the shade remained unmolten, which made the bridge appear to be broken into many fragments and separated from the causeway.

(To get to this spot, get on Bus No. 7, No. 16 or No. 27, get off at the Children's Palace Square and then walk along the lake shore.)

Twin Peaks Piercing the Clouds This scenic spot is by the Hongchun Bridge on the Lingyin Road. Its mark is a stone tablet on which is this inscription: "Twin Peaks Piercing the Clouds".

Twin peaks refers to the South Peak and the North Peak, which are the most famous peaks among the peaks of the southern and northern ranges of the Tianzhu Mountains surrounding the West Lake. The two peaks stand five kilometres apart. Whenever a storm is coming, thick clouds appear to be distant mountain ranges while the distant mountain ranges look like light clouds. It is difficult to distinguish between clouds and far-off mountains. The indistinct Twin Peaks pierce the clouds, which seems to create a profound mountain and waters painting rendered in layers of ink. Historic Lingyin Temple, founded in the fourth century, is nearby.

(Access to the Twin Peaks is by the No. 7 Bus to the Hongchun Bridge.)

Lotus Flowers Swaying in Quyuan Garden

The original site of this scenic spot was near the Kuahong (Spanning Rainbow) Bridge at the northern end of the Su Causeway opposite Yue Fei's Tomb. During the Song Dynasty, there was an official distillery. A lot of lotuses were planted there and the place would be filled with their delicate fragrance, hence its name. The present site is several

times larger than the old site and its layout is very exquisite. Many species of lotus are planted in the vast stretch of lake water. Along the shore are some simple yet elegant corridors, verandas, pavilions and waterside pavilions for people to view lotuses. On summer days, breezes from the lake surface bring forth a cool paradise in the blazing heat.

There are holiday villas in the woods in this spot called Forest Holiday Villas of the West Lake. Many birch lodges built on stilts, and single-storey plank houses are available for rent. Here such picnicking and camping facilities as hammocks, tents and cooking utensils can also be hired.

(This site can be reached by the No. 7 Bus from Yue Fei's Tomb.)

Ten New Scenic Spots of the West Lake

Clouds Linger Round Bamboo Forest Path

This scenic spot is situated in a place called Yunqiwu in the Wuyun (Five Clouds) Hill some 20 kilometres from the lakeside. It is said that colourful clouds floating from the hill often linger here. Going through the Yunqi Stone Gateway, one can see a tablet pavilion and Xixin (Reforming) Pavilion by the path. In front of the pavilion is a small pond, where the water is very clear and cool.

(It is accessible by the No. 324 Bus.)

Osmanthus Flower Shower at Manlong

"Manlong" refers to a queer path called Manjuelong between the South Peak and the Crane Peak. Over 7,000 osmanthus trees grow along this mountain path. In autumn, the valley is filled with the refreshing fragrance of osmanthus flowers, which accounts for the name of the scenic spot. Here, such sweet local delicacies as candied osmanthus flowers, and osmanthus flower and chestnut soup are available.

(Access to this site is provided by Bus No. 4 or No. 324, getting off at the Zoo and walking back a bit, or by the No. 508 Bus from Dragon Well.)

Tiger Spring — A Spring of Dreams Tiger Spring is in the Dinghui Buddhist Temple in Daci Hill. This spring happens to be China's most famous.

The name of the spring originated in a dream. The legend goes that during the Tang Dynasty, there lived in the temple an eminent Buddhist monk. He once decided to move to another place because the area was short of water. One night in a dream he heard the instruction from a god, saying: "There is a spring in Hengshan Mountain in Hunan. I would send two tigers to remove the spring to your place." The following morning, so the story goes, the monk did see two tigers digging in the ground with their paws; spring water welled out. And that is how the spring and the scenic spot were named Tiger Spring.

The spring is the focus of interest on the visit here. Entering the gate, one can hear the clear spring water bubbling beneath one's feet. The water of Tiger Spring is lucid and germ-free. Tiger Spring water and the Dragon Well Tea have long been claimed as "two unique specialties of the West Lake". The water itself has such a high degree of surface tension that coins can be floated on the surface of a filled cup.

The temple dating back to the Tang Dynasty is also the place where the legendary figure Monk Ji Gong died and was buried. The Ji Gong Hall in the temple is dedicated in memory of him. Another place worth visiting in the temple is the Memorial Room of Master Hongyi, whose real name is Li Shutong. He was a great master in arts in contemporary China.

(The Tiger Spring can be reached by Bus No. 4 and No. 324.)

Tea Tasting at Dragon Well

Dragon Well is located on Phoenix Hill southwest of the West Lake. In the Jin Dynasty (265-420), Ge Hong (283-343), a Taoist philosopher and master, was supposed to have made pills of immortality here.

The well from which he fetched water did not dry up even during drought. People believed that the well was connected with the sea and named it Dragon Well. Dragon Well water has a very peculiar feature which adds to the interest of tourists: when the water is stirred, a watershed forms on the surface of water and it moves like a hair-spring, before slowly disappearing.

Dragon Well is the name of a famous spring as well as the name of the home of the Dragon Well Green Tea. The tea possesses four distinguishing features: green colour, rich aroma, beautiful shape and sweet taste.

(Dragon Well is reached by the No. 27 Bus. Another way is by getting on the No. 508 Bus at the Zoo.)

Mist-Shrouded Trees at Nine Creeks A stretch of the road running south from the Dragon Well, this is another name for the —

famous scenic spot Jiuxi Shibajian (Nine Creeks and Eighteen Gullies). Situated at the foot of the Jiguanlong Hill west of the West Lake, it joins the Yanxia (Mist and Cloud) Cave at one end and the Qiantang River at the other, with its middle point being the beach and the park in front of the Jiuxi (Nine Creeks) Restaurant. From the restaurant a walk up the steps along Jiguanlong brings one to the River Viewing Pavilion atop the hill. When one looks in front of the pavilion into the distant Qiantang River, the winding river course greets the eyes, and the wide expanse of the misty river and the sky merges into a unity.

The main part of the scene are creeks. Actually, the numbers "nine" and "eighteen" are merely used to emphasize the large number of creeks and gullies. Rising in the Yangmei Ridge and joined by streams from nine valleys, the creeks wind their way to the Qiantang River. The basic scenery of hills and trees in this area is invigorated by the network of winding and ever-flowing streams and creeks.

(The site is accessible by the No. 4 Bus.)

Green Surrounding Ruangong Mound One of the three islets in the West Lake, Ruangong Mound was built of silt when Ruan Yuan (1764-1849), Governor of Zhejiang Province had the West Lake dredged. There used to be no buildings on the mound due to the soft soil. In recent years, bamboo pavilions, corridors and halls have been built on the mound. These simply yet elegantly shaped buildings, coupled with thatched cottages surrounded with low bamboo fences, form a garden on the lake. Because this spot is among the dense green bamboo and surrounded by green lake water, it has been dubbed "Green Surrounding Ruangong Mound".

On summer and autumn nights, visits in the style of the ancients to the Huanbi Manor are arranged. Visitors to the manor are all treated as guests of the host. They are greeted according to ancient customs and are treated to dinner accompanied with ancient merry songs and graceful dancers.

(Ruangong Mound is accessible by boats from wharfs on the lakeside. Night trip admission tickets are sold at Zhongshan Park wharf.)

Flowing Rosy Clouds at the Treasure Stone Hill The Baoshi (Treasure Stone) Hill is north of the West Lake. The tall and graceful Baochu Pagoda atop the hill is a landmark of the northern skyline of the West Lake area, as it can be seen from afar.

The attraction of this spot is the pagoda. Against the morning and evening glow, the pagoda looks very colourful on the



Photo by Chen Hailin

purplish-brown rocks. Originally erected from 969-976, it has been damaged and destroyed several times, but always rebuilt.

(The No. 7 Bus reaches the foot of Treasure Stone Hill.)

Jade Green Out of Yellow Dragon Cave

The Huanglong (Yellow Dragon) Cave is the most well-known place in the Qixia (Clouds Lingering) Cave Scenic Spot. The name "Jade Green Out of Yellow Dragon Cave" originated from the following legend: During the Song Dynasty, a monk called Hui Kai arrived here to have a temple built and practised Buddhism here. He was followed by a yellow dragon, and water spurted from the mouth of the dragon. The area around Yellow Dragon Cave is shaded by green foliage. A winding path leads to secluded places. This scenic spot differs from others in that it has various kinds of bamboo. The square bamboo (*Chimonobambusa quadrangularis*) in the Square Bamboo Garden has thorns around the joints. It is a very rare species. Other species of bamboo include fernleaf hedge bamboo, black bamboo, mottled bamboo, indocalamus and many more. A garden in the style of the ancients has been set up inside the cave.

(Bus No. 16 and No. 28 stop at the Yellow Dragon Cave).

Heavenly Wind at Wushan Hill Situated southeast of the West Lake, Wushan Hill is a series of hills running into the southern fringes of Hangzhou. The peaks, though only 100 metres high, are of grotesque shape and its scenery is uniquely beautiful. Of all the hills around the West Lake, Wushan Hill is the richest in variety of scenes and most worthwhile to visit. In the northern part on its top, there are twelve jagged rocks, which resemble the twelve animals denoting years people are born following the lunar calendar. Accordingly, they are called the Rocks of Twelve Signs.

Wushan Hill is a place rich in the culture of the Wu and Yue kingdoms during the Spring and Autumn Period (770-476 B.C.) as well as the Song Dynasty. It has many rock inscriptions with the writing of famous poets and calligraphers, such as Su Dongpo's poem praising the peony; "Pine and Cypress in Cold Winter" by a Ming Dynasty intellec-

tual Wu Dongsheng, carved on Ganhua Rock by the side of the former Baocheng Temple; and the original calligraphy of "First Mountain" by the famous Song Dynasty calligrapher Mi Fu. On the hill, there are many 400 to 500-year-old camphor trees, among which the oldest, Song Camphor Tree, is over 800 years old.

Wedge between the Qiantang River on the left and the West Lake on the right, Wushan Hill is an ideal place to enjoy a bird's-eye panorama of the river, the lake and the city. For added viewing comfort, a pavilion was built atop the hill not long ago.

(The No. 8 Bus travels to the foot of Wushan Hill.)

Flying Clouds at Jade Emperor Hill The Jade Emperor Hill is south of the West Lake. According to one legend, the West Lake was a heavenly pearl which fell down to Hangzhou escorted by a jade dragon and a gold phoenix. Later the jade dragon turned into a hill called the Jade Emperor Hill or the Jade Dragon Hill, while the gold phoenix, the Phoenix Hill beside it. The Jade Emperor Hill is 237 metres high and has a Clouds Climbing Pavilion on its top. Standing on the second storey of the pavilion, one can see clouds flying below the pavilion. The pavilion commands a fine view of the Qiantang River, the West Lake, the Eight Trigrams Field and the whole of Hangzhou City. On the hill there are such scenic spots as Ciyun Cave, Purple Source Cave, Ciyun Palace and Tianyi Pond. At the foot of the mountain are Buddhist sculptures dating back to the Five Dynasties Period (907-960).

(A special route coach starting from south of the lake shore runs directly to the top of the hill.)

Translated by Chen Jiaji

Suggested Itinerary for a Visit to the Ten New Scenic Spots

From the city centre Bus No. 8 can take you to Wushan Tianfeng, Yuhuang Feiyun, Manlong Guiyu and Hupao Mengquan. Then, from Hupao Mengquan Bus No. 324 continues on to Yunqi and you can visit Yunqi Zhujing, Jiuxi Yanshu and Longjing Wencha.

Departing from Longjing, you can take the No. 27 Coach and disembark at the Yue Fei's Temple. There, you could ascend Qixia Ridge to visit Huanglong Tucci on the road leading to Geling Ridge, Baoshi Liuxia and at the crest to overlook Ruandun Huanbi.

N.B. As the scenic spots are scattered on hilltops or on the lake, it is arduous to make the whole trip on foot in one day.

After Dark in Hangzhou

Activities after dark in Hangzhou have been steadily increasing. Travellers staying here now have a variety of places to spend an enjoyable evening outside of their hotel. In addition to the more conventional night spots found in hotels, there are places outside which offer programmes revealing some of Hangzhou's local character. Whether your preference is for modern dancing or hospitality, ancient style, or something in between, you are sure to find something that suits your fancy.

A Night Trip to the West Lake

West Lake takes on a different personality after dark. A sightseeing journey to Huanbi Village offers a flavour of the ancient way. Ruandun Huanbi, one of the Ten New Scenic Spots of the West Lake, is open to the public at night from April to October and has various kinds of night-time activities purporting to recreate the style of the ancients. During this time red lanterns are raised high and banners are fluttering high in the sky. As soon as the night falls, one boat-load of tourists after another come to the spot and the host from ancient times together with his servants extends a warm welcome to the guests on the pier. As an added prop, there are coloured sedans for the visitors to sit on, and attendants on both sides are beating drums and blowing trumpets. The sedan carriers in ancient costumes can carry individuals into the village if one prefers. When the guests are comfortably seated, the host immediately orders his servant girls to serve tea, play classical music and perform traditional dance routines. While in the village, the guests have the opportunity to meet the famous historical figure Su Dongpo and even the legendary living Buddha, Ji Gong. Such programs striving to replicate the ancient environment in our modern times are very interesting and not without their charm.



Night Garden at Listening to Orioles Singing in the Waving Willows

The famous Listening to Orioles Singing in the Waving Willows has become a colourful night attraction during summer and autumn evenings. A big reason for this is the open-air stage in the garden. After dark, Shaoxing opera as well as local opera, stand-up comedy and farce routines alternate in turns. Meanwhile in the teahouse, there are many kinds of entertainment for visitors to enjoy. Or, if the individual is in a mellow mood, he or she can sit for a while on the lake, looking out into the distance at the shimmering prismatic lights rimming around the lake like precious stones and appreciating the unparalleled romantic charm of the West Lake.

Show Boat Performances

During summer and autumn, various kinds of performances are presented on a special show boat every evening on the West Lake. Tourists can go and watch by boat. "The stage on the lake, the audience on the boat", to coin a phrase, is for performances in the region of rivers and lakes in the area south of the Yangtse valley.

Romantic Candlelight Teahouse and Outdoor Cafe

The Yikoule Restaurant on the ground floor of the Hangzhou Hotel near Yue Fei's

Tomb opens a teahouse with candle illuminated tables featured during the evening. Coffee, tea, soft drinks and cakes are served. The attendants place a candle at each table, providing a romantic ambiance. One can feel an ease of mind enhanced by the easy listening music spending an relaxing evening here.

Creating a similar comfortable ambiance, the Jinghu (Mirror Lake) Hall on the east of Xiling Bridge also sets up an open-air cafe with candlelight atmosphere.

Dance Halls, Coffee Shops and Bars

In Hangzhou, the big hotels, such as the Hangzhou Shangri-La Hotel, the Huanglong Hotel, Xinqiao Hotel and Wangu Hotel, generally have dance halls or ballrooms. The dance floors are generally open to overseas tourists in the evening. Often these dance halls have coffee shops and bars attached. Other coffee shops and bars which specialize in supplying food and beverages are too numerous to all mention here. Some of the more frequented include the coffee shops on the upstairs of the provision shop on Gongxiangkou, the Hangzhou Coffee Shop on Wushan Road, the Friendship Coffee Shop and the North Hill Coffee Shop at the corner of Shengtang Road and Xiya at Qingbomen. All of these shops are truly pleasant places to while away an evening. ☐

Translated by Li Wen

Hangzhou's Special Interest Museums

Hangzhou, while deservedly famous for its beautiful West Lake, has had a long cultural history as well and the city today is as justifiably proud of its cultural heritage as it is of its scenic delights.

Out of an awareness of this cultural heritage and the educational value to be derived from it by both the local people and the domestic and foreign tourists who flock here, the city has established four special interest museums, each based on a single item of Hangzhou's cultural history.

The China Silk Museum

The most recently opened (late February, 1992) of the four museums, the China Silk Museum bears witness to Hangzhou's pre-eminent role in silk production down through the centuries. A three-story building located in the scenic area south of the West Lake, it represents the history of Chinese silk by way of objects, models, pictures, charts, photographs and historical relics including examples of silk from such ancient times as



Replica ancient handloom displayed in the hall of the China Silk Museum (by Miao Jun)

the Jin (265-420) and Tang (618-907) Dynasties, besides displaying silks of more modern origin.

Visitors to the Manufacturing Hall can see the whole process of sericulture from the silkworm-raising stage to the collection of the silk, its spinning, weaving and dyeing. Another room has on display authentic looms of various historical periods. And being a "hands-on" kind of museum, visitors are encouraged to try their hand at operating some of them.

The application of silk in its manifold ways is demonstrated here in static displays, fashion shows and various exhibition programmes and demonstrations which are

changed from time to time. The visitor to this fascinating place comes away with an appreciation of how and why China's silk has always been so highly prized and was one of China's great gifts to the world.

The China Tea Museum

Another of Hangzhou's treasures is its famed tea culture, for it is in the surrounding countryside that China's most famous teas are grown and processed. In 1991, it was decided that the site for a national China Tea Museum would be a tea-growing area in Hangzhou, underlining the important role the city has played since the earliest days in China's tea culture and industry.

Those who have been to China will understand the important place tea once had and continues to have in the life of the people, be they humble farmers in the countryside or emperors in their palace. Visit the home of any Chinese and, before anything else, you will be served tea. Tea drinking finds its way into countless literary works and paintings. There are artisans who do nothing else but concentrate on creating vessels and other paraphernalia for the tea culture.

The Tea Museum displays a great many types of tea, some very well known and others not so famous, but none the worse for that. There are the green teas and the black teas, the brick teas and teas in all kinds of unusual packaging.

If you have tea, you will of course have to have tea sets — tea pots to brew the tea in and cups from which to drink it. Examples of the enormous range of such tea sets are here displayed, ranging from delicate sets which look like they are from some child's doll's house to others which take amusing shapes, grotesque outlines and other forms and textures drawn from nature.

Literature and art on China's tea culture find their place here as do examples of the tea preparation of various parts of the country where each has its own special characteristics. The visitor to this museum comes away with a greater awareness of why a seemingly simple thing as a cup of tea has such an established role in the life of the Chinese.

The Southern Song Guan Kiln Museum

During the Southern Song Dynasty (1127-1279), Hangzhou was an important centre for the production of porcelain. Being the seat of the imperial court at the time, much of the porcelain it produced was destined for the emperor's use and that of the court. Kilns producing such porcelain were known as imperial kilns, and in 1985, one such kiln was discovered in Hangzhou near the site of a former palace. Subsequently, a great many

fragments of *guan* (imperial) porcelain were unearthed there and it was decided that on this historic site a museum dedicated to Hangzhou's contribution to porcelain should be set up.

It is an intriguing place for the visitor keen on learning about what was a flourishing industry so many centuries ago and what still remains an important one today.


On display are examples of porcelain for daily or utilitarian use as well as others whose function was purely decorative. A special exhibit is an actual operating workshop where the visitor can see how porcelain was made during the Southern Song Dynasty.

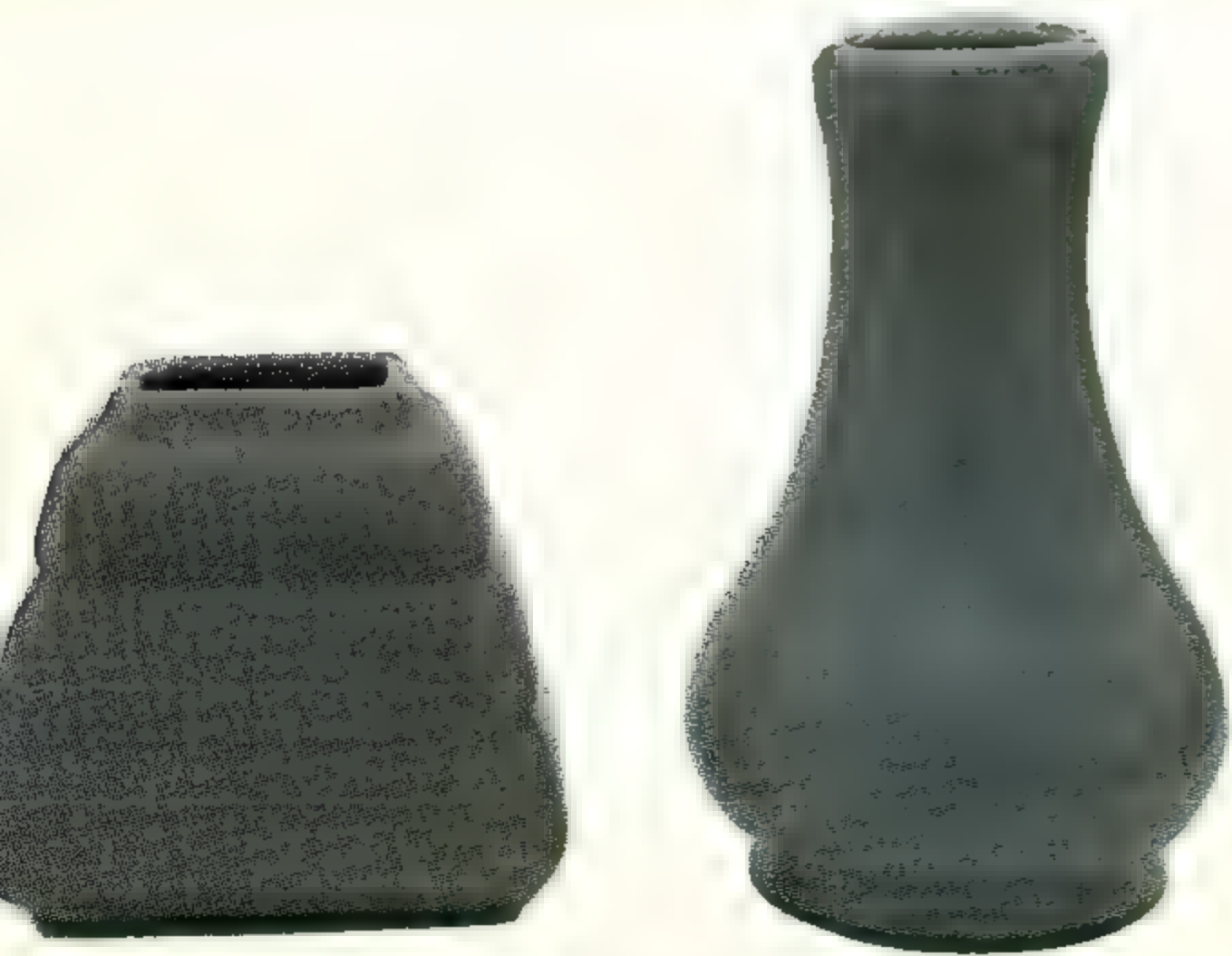
An added feature of the museum is an "hands-on" chance for visitors to try their hand at producing a porcelain piece — a nice souvenir to return home with to remind him or her of a visit to a place where the past and present are brought together.

The Traditional Chinese Medicine Museum

It was in 1873 that a Chinese pharmaceutical business was established in Hangzhou. This business, named the Huqingyutang, quickly won fame for the high quality of its medicines prepared according to ancient Chinese recipes and using traditional herbal and other ingredients and became one of the two best-known medicine shops in the country, the other being in Beijing.

Today on the site of the original Huqingyutang, there stands a museum devoted to Chinese medicine, one of the most important schools of medicine in the world.

Though not large in size, the scope of its subject is vast. There are displays of many, if not most, of the huge range of herbs, minerals and animal parts used in Chinese medicine. The visitor learns how the basic ingredients are processed in the traditional way. The history of this absorbing subject is displayed in graphic form. A visit to this museum is an education in a facet of China's unique culture in which the rest of the world is now showing more and more practical interest. 



Imitation *guan* porcelain of the ancient imperial Kiln
(by Peng Zheng)

Peculiar Attractions at the West Lake

Three Peculiarities

Broken Bridge Not Broken Visitors familiar with the scenery at the West Lake perhaps know about a moving love story of the Broken Bridge where the White Snake and Xu Xian, the heroine and hero of the story, once met. In the past this bridge had a wooden pavilion on it. When it snowed in winter the pavilion was covered by white snow while the bridge heads were clear. When viewed from a distance, the bridge seemed broken.

Solitary Hill Not Solitary The southern corner of Gushan (Solitary Hill) was formerly the only islet on the West Lake. Later when the lake was dredged, the Bai and Su Causeways and three other islets — the Mid-Lake Pavilion, Lesser Yingzhou and Ruangong Mound — were built using the silt. On the Bai Causeway, Autumn Moon Over the Calm Lake, one of the Ten Views of the West Lake, and Crane Pavilion were also constructed. With the accompaniment of these scenic sites the Solitary Hill is no longer solitary.

Long Bridge Not Long On the south side of the West Lake there is a five-metre-long wooden bridge named the Long Bridge. Before the Song Dynasty (960-1279) the surface of the lake was much larger than at present. Boats could reach the Lengquan (Cold Spring) Pavilion at the Lingyin Temple. The bridge then had a length of 100 metres. Later the size of the lake was reduced and the bridge was shortened to the present span of five metres. But the name of the Long Bridge has been retained to this day.

"Five Many's"

Many Temples It is said that the number of temples in the Tang Dynasty (618-907) was over 360 in the environs of the lake and increased to 480 during the Southern Song (1127-1279) when Hangzhou served as the imperial capital. The temples at the West Lake were not only numerous but also grand in scale. Apart from the Lingyin Temple, the well-known survivors are the Jingci Temple, the three temples at Tianzhou and the Yunki Temple. Others include Taoist temples on Wushan Hill and Yuhang (Jade Emperor) Hill. Every year on festivals during spring and autumn, groups of pilgrims to the hills appear among the tourists to the West Lake. At a matter of fact, another major purpose for their coming is sightseeing.

Many Tombs With picturesque surroundings and mountains the West Lake and its vicinity were considered geomantically aus-

picious, a "treasured land" where many renowned figures in Chinese history were buried. The most familiar resting places are the tomb of Yue Fei, general of the Southern Song and Qiu Jin, a woman revolutionary in the late Qing Dynasty.

Many Caves There are an abundance of caves in the mountains around the West Lake. The best-known are the Feilaifeng (Peak Flying from Afar) Cave in front of the Lingyin Temple, the Huanglong (Yellow Dragon) Cave at the back of Xixia Ridge and the Three Yanxia (Mist and Cloud) Caves at the foot of the South Peak. These caves have provided a favourable milieu for the development of grotto arts. About one thousand stone sculptures engraved during various dynasties can be found here. They are both historically significant and great in number, enough to warrant inaugurating a special West Lake Caves Tour.

Many Springs Springs in the the West Lake vicinity are found almost everywhere. The three most famous ones are the Hupao, Longjing and Jade Spring. Known as the "Third Spring Under Heaven", the Hupao Spring takes its source from sandstone crevices, the water of which is fresh and sweet. The Longjing Spring is a karst spring oozing out of limestone. It does not dry up even during severe drought. Its water is fresh and cold, good for making tea. The Jade Spring is a porous spring, as clear as jade. With an abundant source it is the largest at the West Lake. Others springs include: the Cold Spring at Lingyin, the Liuyi Spring at Gushan Hill, the Wushan Spring at Mount Chenghuang, the Yuegui and Yongqing at Tianzhu, the Liugong at the South Peak, the Baisha at Qixia Ridge and the Dragon Spring at Huanglong (Yellow Dragon) Cave.

Many Teas Hilly lands occupy about thirty per cent of the West Lake suburban area, which are one of the principal producers of Hangzhou's tea. Tea produced in this area has a history of at least 1,000 years. During the early fifties the production of Longjing Tea developed unprecedentedly. The area of tea plantations amounted to 67 hectares. Five tea processing places, namely the Lion Peak, Longjing, Hupao, Meiwu (or Meijiawu) and Wuyun are centres for tea growing, tea picking and tea manufacturing. This has given vitality to the West Lake Scenic Area. Among these Tea Tasting at Dragon Well has been included as one of the Ten New Scenic Spots of the West Lake. 

Translated by K. V. Ku



Train Schedules Shanghai—Hangzhou—Ningbo

363 O.	361 O.	353 O.	351 O.	133/136 F.T.	97 Exp.	95 Exp.	Train No. Station	96 Exp.	98 Exp.	134/135 F.T.	352 O.	354 O.	362 O.	364 O.
12:58	01:55		07:20	From Shenyang	23:26	06:00	Shanghai	20:14	22:08	To Shenyang	05:00		11:07	22:58
—	—	21:05	—	02:45	—	—	Shanghai West	—	—	02:15	—	17:17	—	—
14:26	03:12	22:17	08:43	04:15	—	—	Songjiang	—	—	—	—	16:02	09:46	21:37
15:56	05:03	23:55	10:12	05:48	—	08:32	Jiaxing	—	19:25	23:20	02:42	14:42	08:10	20:16
16:30	05:45	—	10:49	06:23	—	—	Haining	—	—	22:32	—	13:59	07:32	19:35
17:58	07:06	01:38	12:24	07:56	03:20	10:02	Hangzhou	16:28	17:42	20:56	00:51	12:32	06:05	18:05
		02:08	12:56		—		Xiaoshan		—		00:12	11:54		
		03:08	13:50		04:30		Shaoxing		16:30		23:29	11:07		
		04:29	15:10		05:41		Yuyao		15:14		22:04	09:40		
		05:58	16:10		06:40		Ningbo		14:20		21:10	08:35		

Exp. — Express
F.T. — Fast through passenger train
O. — Ordinary passenger train

Train Schedules Shanghai—Hangzhou—Yingtan—Zhuzhou

209 F.T.	207/206 F.T.	179 F.T.	151 F.T.	79 EXP.	77 EXP.	75 EXP.	71/74 EXP.	49 EXP.	45 EXP.	Train No. Station	46 EXP.	50 EXP.	72/73 EXP.	76 EXP.	78 EXP.	80 EXP.	152 F.T.	180 F.T.	208/205 F.T.	210 F.T.
									From Beijing		To Beijing									
	17:26	19:49	11:35	19:00	15:52	08:00	17:40	10:04	07:05	Shanghai	09:47	20:48	13:40	19:27	09:03	09:51	05:45	08:43	13:26	
	20:44	23:00	14:24		18:27	10:50	20:19	12:46	—	Jiaxing	—	18:25	11:10	16:53	06:26	—	03:08	05:40	10:44	
09:02	22:28	00:54	16:16	22:45	20:10	12:43	22:00	14:28	11:24	Hangzhou	05:16	16:43	09:30	15:13	04:41	05:52	01:16	03:40	08:48	20:24
12:57	03:03	05:26	20:12	02:16	23:55	16:50	01:32	17:54	14:55	Jinhua	01:30	12:52	05:16	11:14	00:50	02:26	20:53	23:16	04:10	16:06
14:26	04:43	06:55	21:54	03:48	—	18:22	02:59	19:24	16:33	Quzhou	23:57	11:18	03:45	09:05	—	00:52	18:34	21:05	02:08	14:22
17:07	07:05	09:50	01:15	06:02	03:56	20:46	05:10	21:34	18:48	Shangrao	21:41	09:07	01:26	06:28	20:57	22:35	15:40	18:34	23:40	11:40
19:42	09:14	12:36	03:31	07:59	06:02	23:10	07:10	23:37	21:12	Yingtan	19:28	06:44	23:28	03:40	18:45	20:32	13:19	16:10	21:23	09:18
05:34	19:06	23:00	13:55	16:33			15:44	07:59		Zhuzhou		22:06	15:07			12:11	03:19	06:07	10:49	23:48
To Guangzhou	To Changsha	To Nanning	To Guiyang	To Kunming	To Nanchang	To Xiamen	To Chongqing	To Guangzhou	To Fuzhou		From Fuzhou	From Guangzhou	From Chongqing	From Xiamen	From Nanchang	From Kunming	From Guiyang	From Nanning	From Changsha	From Guangzhou

Major Restaurants in Hangzhou, Zhejiang

Name	Address	Telephone	Specialities*
Zhijiang Restaurant	90 Zhijiang Road (beside the Liuhe Pagoda)	662565	Steamed fishes, ham
Bagualou Restaurant	Fuxing Street (under Mt Yuhuang)	—	Imitating the Song Dynasty dishes
Tianxianglou Restaurant	166 Jiefang Road	22038	Dongpo Braised Pork, Babao (Eight Treasures) Chicken, Hangzhou Duck cooked in soy sauce, West Lake Water Shield (Chuncaï) Soup
Hangzhou Restaurant	52 Yan'an Road	26414	West Lake Vinegar Carp, Shrimps cooked with Longjing Tea, Beggar's Chicken
Suxiangzhai Restaurant	30 Yan'an Road	23235	Vinegar Carp, ham, crisp fried duck, noodles
Louwailou Restaurant	Beside the Zhongshan Park	21654	West Lake Vinegar Carp, Shrimps cooked with Longjing Tea, Beggar's Chicken, West Lake Water Shield (Chuncaï) Soup
Tianwaitian Restaurant	62 Lingyin Road	22429	West Lake Vinegar Carp, Shrimps cooked with Longjing Tea, West Lake Water Shield Soup, Beggar's Chicken, fish head soup
Shanwaishan Restaurant	Yuquan (Jade Spring) Scenic Area	26621	Basically same as Louwailou Restaurant
Xizhongxi Restaurant	Jiuxi Scenic Area	23001	Basically same as Louwailou Restaurant
Fuxingguan Restaurant	Peak of Mt. Yuhuang	23001	Vegetarian dishes
Huagang Restaurant	Inside Huagang Harbour Garden	23001	Basically same as Louwailou Restaurant
Hupao Restaurant	Hupao Scenic Area	23001	Basically same as Louwailou Restaurant
Yuehu Restaurant	Beside the Yuwang Temple	25413	Traditional Hangzhou dishes and snacks
Fenghuanglou Hui Restaurant	93 Renhe Road	23680	Roasted duck, mutton pots, sesame cakes
Hai Feng Restaurant	59 Yan'an Road	22640	Western food and snack; disco and bar at night
Kuiyuan Restaurant	124 Jiefang Road	25921	Noodles with fried shrimps and eel; or with chicken, mutton, crab
Zhiweiguan Restaurant	83 Renhe Road	26151	Fried eel, Eight Treasure Chicken, West Lake Vinegar Carp, steamed meat or shrimp buns

* For the specialities in details, please refer to the article in our Special Features.

Flights to and from Hong Kong/Guangzhou/Hangzhou

Route	Days of Week	Dep.	Arr.	Flight No.
Hong Kong — Guangzhou	2	10:00	10:35	CZ302
	1 3 4 5 6 7	17:50	18:30	CZ320
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	11:50	12:30	CZ304
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	19:45	20:25	CZ306
Guangzhou — Hong Kong	2	08:25	09:00	CZ301
	1 3 4 5 6 7	08:25	09:00	CZ319
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	10:20	10:55	CZ303
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	18:20	18:55	CZ305
Hong Kong — Hangzhou	1 2 3 5	13:10	15:05	KA310
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	12:30	14:00	MU504
Hangzhou — Hong Kong	1 2 3 5	16:05	18:15	KA311
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	09:20	11:30	MU503
Guangzhou — Hangzhou	4	05:55	11:35	SZ4585
	2 4 7	10:15	12:35	GP7375
	1 2 4 6	18:20	20:40	MU362Z
	1 3 5 7	10:50	12:30	SH352
	2 4 5 7	11:00	12:40	CZ3571
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	17:20	19:00	CZ3501
Hangzhou — Guangzhou	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	17:40	19:25	MU5360
	4	12:10	13:50	SZ4586
	2 4 7	14:10	16:30	GP7354
	1 2 4 6	08:20	11:10	MU361Z
	1 3 5 7	13:15	15:10	SH351
	2 4 5 7	13:20	15:05	CZ3572
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	15:50	21:30	CZ3502
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	14:50	16:45	MU5359

Ferry Schedules from Hangzhou

Harbour	Route	Frequency (from each direction)	Main Station
Genshangang	Hangzhou-Suzhou	1 in daytime 1 at night	Tangqi, Xinshi, Wuzhen, Pingwang, Wujiang
	Hangzhou-Huzhou	(ditto)	Yiqiao, Tangqi, Leidian, Deqing, Linghu
	Hangzhou-Zhenze	1 in daytime	Yiqiao, Tangqi, Shuanglin, Nanxun
	Hangzhou-Wuzhen	(ditto)	Xinshi
	Hangzhou-Pinghu	1 between afternoon and night	Tangqi, Chongfu, Shimen, Jiaxing
	Hangzhou-Wuxi	1 at night	Direct ferry for tourists
Nanxingqiao	Hangzhou-Haiyan	1 at night	Shendanggang
	Hangzhou-Lanxi	1 in the morning	Fuyang, Tonglu, Meicheng
	Hangzhou-Tonglu	1 in the morning 1 in daytime	Lingqiao, Fuyang, Zhaixi

Designated Shops in Hangzhou

Name	Address	Telephone
Hangzhou Friendship Store	18 Hubin Rd.	725410
Hangzhou International Shopping Centre	108 Kaiyuan Rd	775009
Zhejiang Arts and Crafts Centre	Wuling Square	550521
Shopping Centre of Zhejiang Guesthouse	68 Santaishan Rd.	777988
Hangzhou Antique and Curio Store	90 Dongpo Rd	767141
China Tourist Souvenir General Corporation, Hangzhou Branch	92 Longjiang Rd.	773405
Xiling Seal Engravers' Society	At southern foot of Solitary Hill (31 Gushan Rd)	725465

Foreign Trade Corporations in Hangzhou

Name	Address	Telephone
China National Silk Import & Export Corporation, Zhejiang Branch	55 Tiychang Road	554249/317316
Zhejiang Native Produce & Animal By-Products Import & Export Corporation	102 Fengqi Road	554858/554813
Zhejiang Arts & Crafts Import & Export Corporation	22 Zhongshan Road North	768888
China National Native Produce & Animal By-Products Import & Export Corporation, Zhejiang Tea Branch	56 Huimin Road	773959/772239
Hangzhou Silk Industrial Corporation	280 Xinhua Road	553524
Hangzhou Native Produce Corporation	194 Zhongshan Road North	28391
Hangzhou Zhang Xiaoquan Scissors Factory	45 Hemu Road, Daguan	883814
Hangzhou Art Sculpture Factory	164 Shanjiao Road, Fenghuang	662802

Hangzhou: Past Coverage in CHINA TOURISM

No. 3

Hangzhou Special (Beautiful West Lake, Watching the Rising Tide in Haining, Attractions in Hangzhou, A Jolly Trip to Hangzhou, Specialities in Hangzhou, West Lake Anecdotes

No. 13

Honeymooning at the West Lake

No. 48

Honeymoon in Hangzhou

No. 70

Hangzhou Special (West Lake Sights by All Four Seasons, Famous Mountain Scenic Spots in Hangzhou, Eating Sweet and Sour Fish at the Louwailou Restaurant, Zhang Xiaoquan Scissors)

No. 102

Grand Canal (II)

No. 114

Pilgrimage Without End (Travellers' Corner)

No. 130

A Pilgrimage to Hangzhou

No. 138

Hangzhou Cuisine (Travel Notes)

No. 140

West Lake Silk Parasols (Trade Link)

Average Climatic Conditions in Hangzhou

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Temperature (°C)	3.8	5.1	9.3	15.4	20.2	24.3	28.6	28.0	23.3	17.7	12.1	6.3
Rainfall (mm)	62.2	88.7	114.1	130.4	179.9	196.2	126.5	136.5	177.6	77.9	54.7	54.0
Sunset Time	17:09	17:35	17:57	18:16	18:36	18:56	19:05	18:54	18:24	17:47	17:12	16:59
Sunrise Time	06:56	06:51	06:26	05:50	05:18	04:50	04:50	05:16	05:36	05:51	06:13	06:37
Sunshine Time (hr/day)	4.1	3.9	4.0	4.6	4.8	5.1	7.6	7.9	5.5	5.6	5.0	4.5
Rainy Day	10.9	13.0	15.4	15.5	16.8	14.9	12.3	12.5	13.3	9.7	9.5	9.9
Snow Day	3.8	3.5	1.1	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.1	1.3

Famous Products of Hangzhou

Historically Celebrated Tea

The tea produced in Hangzhou and its environs has long been renowned for its quality and pleasant taste, as both historical records and anecdotes attest. There are three principal types of tea produced in the area: black tea, green tea and jasmine tea. Within these three genres the best quality teas are West Lake Longjing, Hangzhou Qiqiang, Jingshan Scented Tea, Mogan Tea Buds, Tianmu Qingding, Chun'an Dafang, Jiuhang Maojian, Fuyang Mingding, Jiande Tea Buds, Jiuqu Hongmei, Jasmine Tea, Mei Tea and more.

Nutritious and Delicious Water Shield

The West Lake of Hangzhou is the principal source of water shield, a kind of aquatic perennial with roots containing various kinds of nutrients, such as vitamin C and iron. It offers the therapeutic benefits of aeration and anti-diarrhea, moistening the digestive tract and alleviating the effects of subcutaneous ulcers. West Lake Water Shield is a very famous dish. Water shield is available in jars which are easily portable over long distance. Before eating, it should be washed cleanly and then cooked, otherwise it will taste slightly sour.

Fragrant and Therapeutic Hangzhou White Chrysanthemums

Hangzhou White Chrysanthemums and the famous Longjing Tea are both very popular, with the former approaching the latter in terms of preference. Hangzhou White Chrysanthemums are produced from fresh chrysanthemums, first steamed and then dried. The product can be used as both



Photo by Wong Kin Man

beverage and medicine. According to the nutritional breakdown analysis, Hangzhou chrysanthemums contain glucose, purine, amino acid and trace elements. Imbibed, it has the therapeutic benefits of relieving fever, lessening eyestrain and detoxification as well as alleviating high blood pressure and migraine and other ailments. It tastes delicately sweet and is fragrant when prepared as a tea.

West Lake Lotus Root Starch

The best-known lotus root starch is produced by Sanjiacun in Zhanqiao Village in Yuhang County; thus, it is called Sanjiacun Lotus Root Starch. Lotus root starch is available either in flakes or granules. It becomes glistening and transparent, fragrant, glutinous and tasty when mixed with boiling water. According to the nutritional breakdown analysis, it contains calcium, phosphorous, iron, fat, protein, carbohydrates and other nutrients. Rich in carbohydrates, it can help the body to store energy and conserve strength. Lotus root starch is most suitable for infants and patients recuperating from illness because of its easy digestion. At virtually every scenic spot of the West Lake, one can enjoy refreshments made of lotus root starch.

Wangxingji Fans

Fans, together with silk and tea are known as the "three uniques" of Hangzhou. The fans manufactured by Wangxingji are delicately made by hand and are aesthetically attractive, so they are much appreciated. They make excellent gifts for friends and relatives. The fans come in a wide variety, such as ivory fans, bone fans and drama fans. There are thirteen different kinds in all, with a total of more than 400 varieties. There are in excess of 3,000 various designs and colours, among which the "Three Star" black fans are most outstanding because of their durability and beauty.

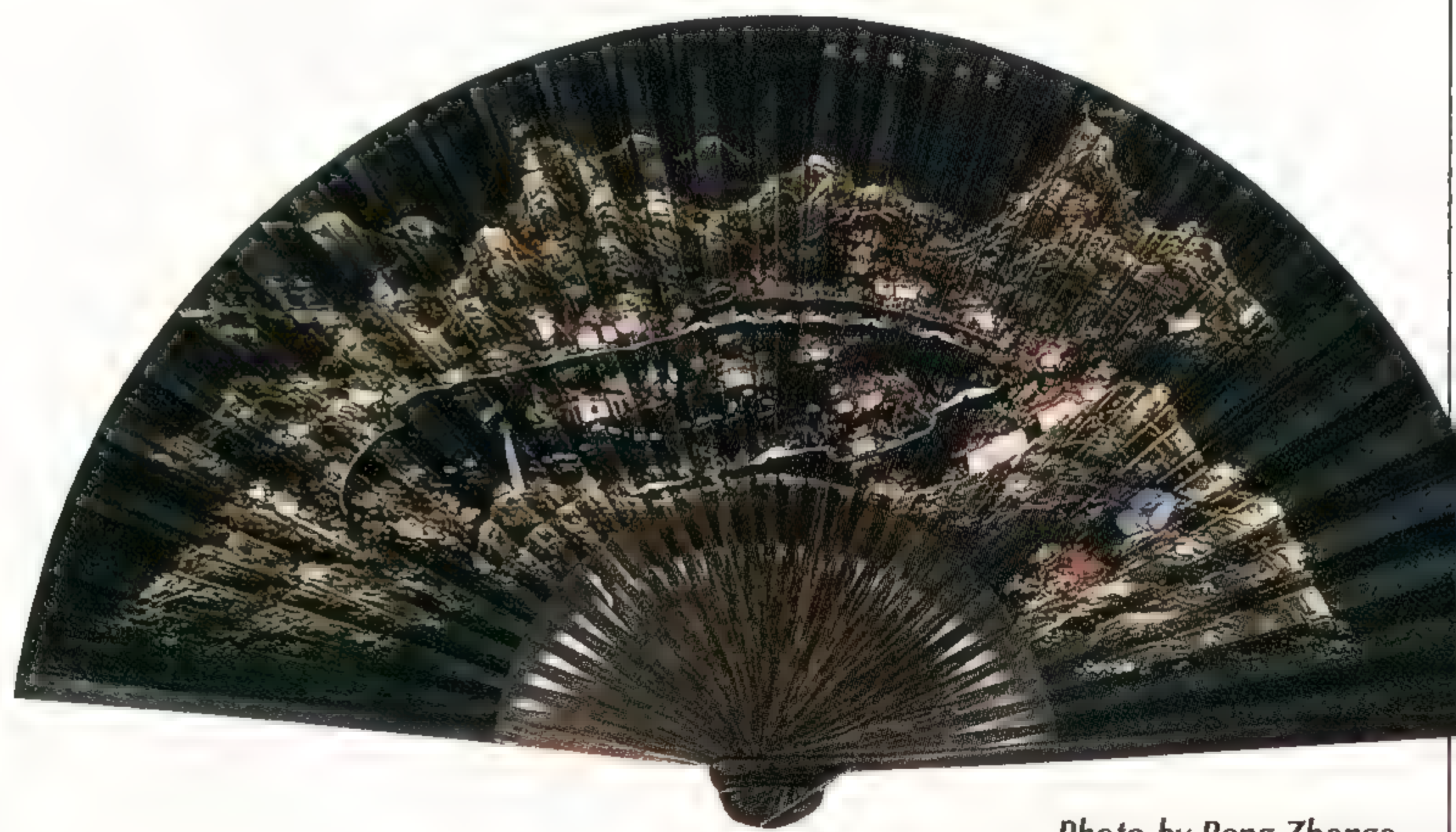


Photo by Peng Zheng

Zhang Xiaoquan Scissors and Shears

Zhang Xiaoquan Scissors and Shears were first manufactured by a father and son team who were natives of Anhui Province during the period between the Late Ming Dynasty and the early Qing Dynasty. Zhang Dalong and Zhang Xiaoquan, the original producers, carefully chose the best steel produced in Longquan for their cutting utensils. Zhang Xiaoquan Scissors have over the years acquired the reputation of maintaining their sharp edges as well as being durable. Thus, it is no surprise that they have been honoured with numerous prizes and have earned the title "the top of the line in scissors".

Today the Zhang Xiaoquan Factory manufactures many kinds of scissors and shears for industrial use and agricultural applications as well as scissors for the home and for travelling. There are four basic categories with approximately 250 different styles. All finished products are tastefully packaged. The handles are engraved with patterns of scenery with hills and waters, flowers and birds. The blade surface is nickel chromium plated.

Wonderful West Lake Silk Umbrellas

West Lake Silk Umbrellas are a handicraft which combines practicality with art. The ribs of each umbrella are made from henon bamboo found only in Zhejiang. Its design is sturdy yet spare, and the colour of the wood is bright with a lustre. The silk covering of the umbrella is solidly embedded in the ribs and will never warp no matter how long it is exposed to the blistering sun. There are beautiful patterns of scenery on the silk with hills and water and flowers and birds motifs created by spraying and brushing paint as well as embroidery, so the umbrella radiates an artistic charm.



Translated by Li Wen



Dragon Boat Races

The sixth national Qu Yuan Cup Dragon Boat Races and the Mount Lushan International Dragon Boat Regatta will be held at Jiujiang, Jiangxi Province from May 31 to June 5 this year. Some 1,400 participants in 40 teams, including eight foreign teams, will take part in the events.

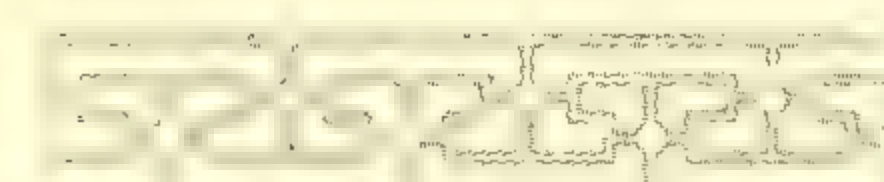
During the races trade fairs and cultural exhibitions will also be held.



Hotel News

The **Kempinski Hotel Beijing Luft-hansa Center** has opened for business in the Chaoyang District of Beijing. The complex, a 540-room hotel and business centre, also has executive apartments and a wide range of recreational and shopping facilities.

The **Beijing New Century Hotel**, situated at 6 Southern Road, Capital Gym, Beijing, is a member of the ANA Hotels International Group. The new hotel had its soft opening on March 1 and its grand opening in April. The large hotel has amongst its facilities a multi-function room, Chinese, Japanese and French restaurants, bar, coffee shop, billiards and mahjong room and a large night club.



Bathing Resort Opens on Nan'ao Island

Qing'ao Bay, on Nan'ao Island in Guangdong Province, formerly a restricted area, has become the site of a tourist bathing resort.

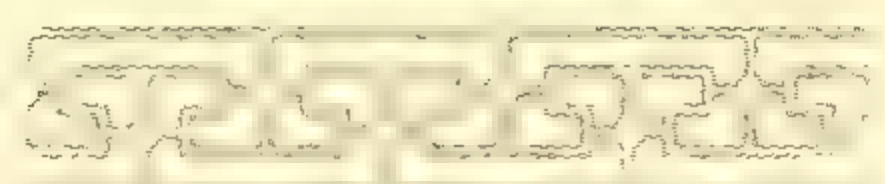
The bay, which is sheltered by a forest belt, offers visitors extensive sandy beaches and bamboo huts and tents. Since its opening in June last year, it has received 31,600 visitors from 20 countries and regions.



Flight News

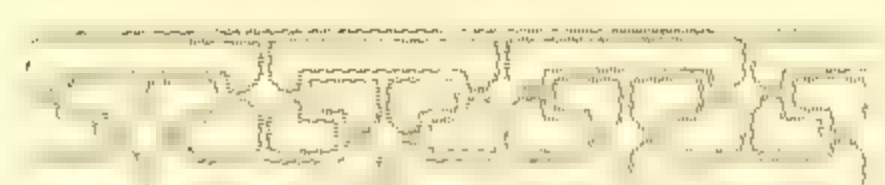
Beijing-Seattle (USA): Northwest Airlines will open a Beijing-Seattle flight on June 1, 1992. It will leave Beijing on Wednesdays at 8:20 a.m. and Fridays at 10:50 a.m., make stops at Shanghai and Tokyo and arrive at Seattle on Mondays and Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. and arrive at Beijing at 10:25 a.m. or 11:45 a.m. the following day.

China United Airlines is starting three new flights: Beijing—Haikou (Hainan), Nantong (Jiangsu)—Huiyang (Guangdong) and Jining (Shandong)—Foshan (Guangdong).



Cooking Contest in Shanghai

The first International Chinese Cooking Contest will be staged in Shanghai from November 10 to 12 this year. Chefs from some 21 countries and regions are expected to attend the contest which is being sponsored by the Chinese Cuisine Association.



New Mosque in Tianjin

The new Xiningdao Mosque has opened in Tianjin, adding one more to the 53 mosques already there. The 757-square-metre prayer hall of the new mosque can accommodate 240 worshippers. Tianjin, the biggest port city in North China, has some 160,000 Moslem residents.



Rare Cranes Found in Tibet

A Sino-American research team has found a group of about 3,800 rare black-necked cranes and bringing the world's present known population of these birds to 5,000. These birds were found to be living in the north of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau and hibernating in the Yarlung Zangbo valley and on the Yunnan-Guizhou Plateau. Their normal habitat is at an altitude of more than 3,900 metres. They are most notably seen near Xigazê and Lhasa where they are even spied perching on the roof of the Potala. Experts are requesting that these birds be more vigorously protected.



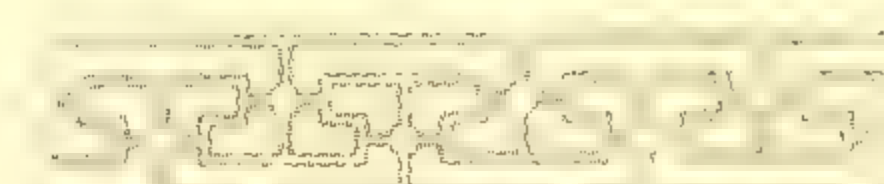
New Pacific Ocean Cargo Line

After the introduction of cargo lines from Qingdao and Shanghai, a new cargo transportation line will link Ningbo in Zhejiang Province with the east coast of the USA. There will be stops at Shanghai, and Kobe and Yokohama in Japan before reaching New York and Houston in the USA. Vessels will leave Ningbo between the 23rd and 25th of each month.



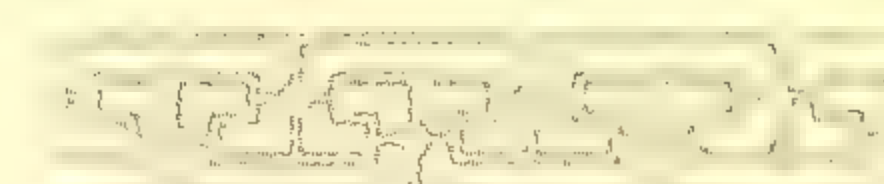
Shanghai Investors' Manual

Shanghai has published a bilingual (English and Chinese) manual setting out the laws and regulations pertaining to business transactions for those wishing to invest or set up business here, preferential policies, etc.



Yue Fei Temple Re-Opened

To commemorate the 888th anniversary of Yue Fei, the Song Dynasty hero, the temple dedicated to his memory, situated in the town of Zhuxian, near Kaifeng in Henan Province, has recently been restored and re-opened to tourists. Zhuxian is famous as the place where Yue Fei defeated the Jin (1115-1234) army. The temple was dedicated to him in the Ming Dynasty and its restoration which began in 1986 is now completed. Bronze statues of Yue Fei and his wife and a stele have been added to the temple. A local products fair will be held in the temple precincts together with an exhibition of photographs and texts on Zhuxian and the famous battle fought there.



Maritime Silk Road Studies Centre

A centre for studies concerning the Maritime Silk Road has been set up as part of an international network under UNESCO. The organization has already undertaken three expeditions — along the desert route, the steppe route and the maritime route. The centre is located in Fujian and is under the aegis of the Fujian Academy of Social Sciences.



Egret Brand Rice Vermicelli

Egret Brand rice vermicelli and rice sticks are delicious and refreshing whether cooked in soup or sautéed. Various sizes of package are available.

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N E X T
I S S U E

NINGXIA SPECIAL

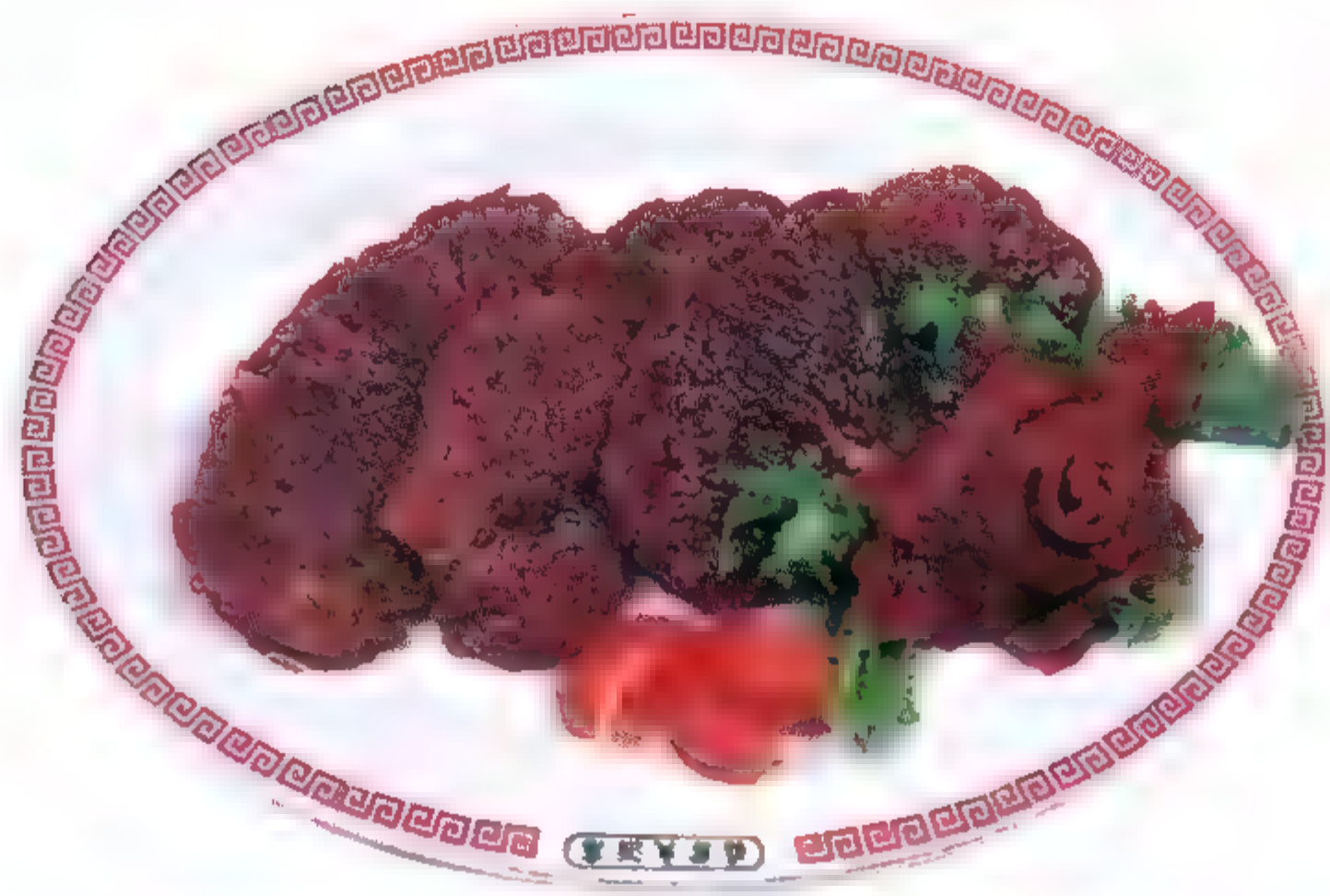
CHINA TOURISM takes you to rustic Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region in China's northwest, which offers a variety of scenery including deserts, mountains and river valleys. We examine the history of the Western Xia (1038-1227), a powerful kingdom threatening the Song Dynasty who centred their regime here. We also visit the native Huis, descendants of Arabs, Persians and other believers of Islam who came here initially as merchants.

- My Thoughts Turn to Shapotou
- The Western Xia: Mysterious Kingdom
- Among the Hui — China's Second Largest Minority
- A Glimpse of the Sand Lake



Inner Mongolia Frozen Beef

內蒙古凍牛肉



內蒙古擁有天然草場八十八萬平方公里，牧養着數百萬牛羊。這裏很少污染，無農藥殘留。公司自設十四

間肉類加工廠，按伊斯蘭屠宰方法宰殺。設備先進、工藝講究，加工精細。牛肉還可按客戶要求分割加工包裝。內蒙古牛肉，肉質鮮嫩，倍受青睞。歡迎各國貿易界朋友垂詢。

Inner Mongolia possesses 880,000 square kilometres of grazing land free from agricultural insecticide pollution. Millions of sheep and cattle

are bred there. We have 14 meat processing factories with modern equipment, meticulous processing and packing to meet the requirements of our customers. All the cattle are slaughtered according to Islamic rules. Inner Mongolia beef is fresh and tasty. Clients everywhere are welcome for enquiries.



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CHINA INNER MONGOLIA AUTONOMOUS REGION CEREALS, OILS & FOODSTUFFS IMP. & EXP. CORP., General Manager: Pan Shi Guang, Vice General Managers: Du Cai Xiang, Li Guo Qing, Tan Yu Gen Address: 7, 8/F, International Trade Building, No 24 Zhong Shan Road West Huhhot, China Cable: 85014 COFIM CN Fax: (0471) 667615 Tel: 666873 Postcode: 010020

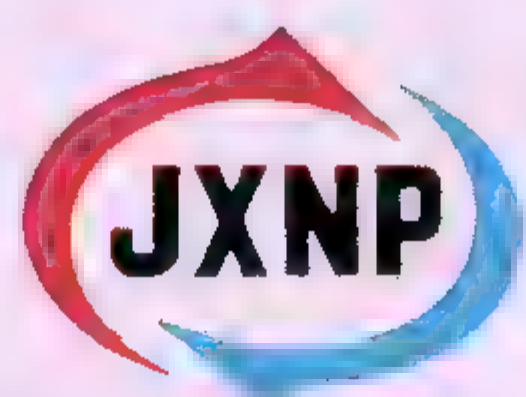


江西省土產進出口公司原名中國土產畜產進出口總公司江西省分公司，一九八九年五月一日正式啓用新名。是具有獨立法人地位的經營進出口業務的國營專業公司。

公司主要經營：土特產品、各種山貨類製品、烟花鞭炮、紙製品、黃麻、苧麻、麻棉、化纖及其製品、小五金製品、塑編製品、乾果菜、鹽漬菜、脫水菜、飼料、蜂蜜及製品、香精及香料油、脂松香、脂松節油、林業化工產品、竹木及其製品、竹筍和室內裝飾品等，並兼營內貿。公司並承辦以土產品爲主的進料加工、來料加工、來樣加工、轉口貿易、易貨貿易、補償貿易、寄售貿易、邊境貿易、國內外投資、合資、代理出口等進出口貿易及土產的原輔料和換購物資的進口業務。

Known as **Jiangxi Native Produce Import and Export Corporation** since May, 1, 1989, our enterprise was formerly called China National Native Produce and Animal By-products Import and Export Corporation, Jiangxi Branch. Enjoying legal person status, it is a State-owned enterprise specializing in the import and export business.

The corporation undertakes the import and export of native produce and specialty products, mountain products, fireworks and firecrackers, jute, ramie, spun rayon fabric and products, poly-woven products, dried fruits and vegetables, vegetables in brine, feedstuffs, honey and honey products, spices and essential oils, gum rosin, gum turpentine, and various forest chemical products, bamboo and wood and their products, paper products, metal and hardware and interior decorations, etc. It also engages in domestic trade. It runs businesses such as processing of supplied and imported materials, manufacturing according to supplied samples, entrepot trade, barter trade, compensation trade, consignment sales, border trade, domestic and overseas investment, export agent on joint venture basis, and the import of raw and supplementary materials and commodities for the exchange of export goods.



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ART. NO.	SPECIFICATION	PACKING (PAIR)	G.W. (KGS)	N.W. (KGS)	MST (CM)
3802 HIP WADER	38-34	6	23	21	66×49×22
3801 CHEST WADER	38-48	6	28	26	68×49×26
IP05 RUBBER BOOTS	22-26	10	9	8	41×21×36
	27-30	10	10	9	43×24×42
	31-35	10	11	10	48×27×49
IP04 RUBBER BOOTS	22-26	10	9	8	41×21×36
	27-30	10	10	9	43×24×42
	31-35	10	11	10	48×27×49
IP02	22-26	10	9	8	41×21×36
	27-30	10	10	9	43×24×42
	31-35	10	11	10	48×27×49
3401-1 3401-2 LABOUR PROTECTIVE BOOTS	38-46	6	13	12	58×32×31
3402 OVERBOOTS	38-46	6	13	12	58×32×31
IP10 RUBBER BOOTS	26-33	12	12	11	48×23×48
	34-38	12	13	12	49×25×57
	39-42	12	14	13	52×29×58
	43-46	12	15	14	56×33×59
3901 INDUSTRIAL BOOTS	38-46	6	13	12	58×32×31



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SHANGHAI SHEN HUA IMP. & EXP. CO., LTD.

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Tel: 3173800, 3176507 Fax: 021-3173819

Approved by the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations & Trade and directly subordinated to Yunnan Foreign Economic Relations & Trade Dept., Yunnan Arts & Crafts I/E Corp. specializes in the export and import of Yunnan's handicrafts. After more than 20 years of operation, the Corporation now owns over 20 factories manufacturing products for export and is assured of a steady supply of goods from 150-odd manufacturers inside and outside the province. It is a member of the China Chamber of Commerce of Importers & Exporters of Arts & Crafts and Textiles.

Scope of Business:

- Jade, pearls and jewels, gold and silver jewelry.
- Wax-dyed and tied-dyed fabrics and garments and accessories.
- Drawn-work articles and knitted garments.
- Marble slabs and products.
- Wooden furniture and ornamental articles, wood-carved handicrafts and wooden toys.
- Furniture made from rattan and all kinds of rattan handicrafts.
- Bronzeware, tinware and earthenware.
- Writing and painting paper, traditional Chinese stationery and all kinds of paintings.
- Parasols, artistic umbrellas, and other works of art.

雲南省工藝品進出口公司是經國家對外經濟貿易部批准成立並直屬於雲南省對外經濟貿易廳領導的主營雲南省工藝品進出口業務的外貿公司。已有 20 多年的經營歷史，擁有 20 多家生產出口產品的工廠，並與省內外 150 多家工廠建立了長期穩定的供貨關係，是全國輕工工藝品及紡織品進出口商會的會員。

經營範圍

- 珠寶翡翠首飾、金銀首飾及玉石雕件
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- 書畫紙張、文房四寶、各類畫
- 太陽傘、工藝傘及各種工藝美術品
- 陶瓷



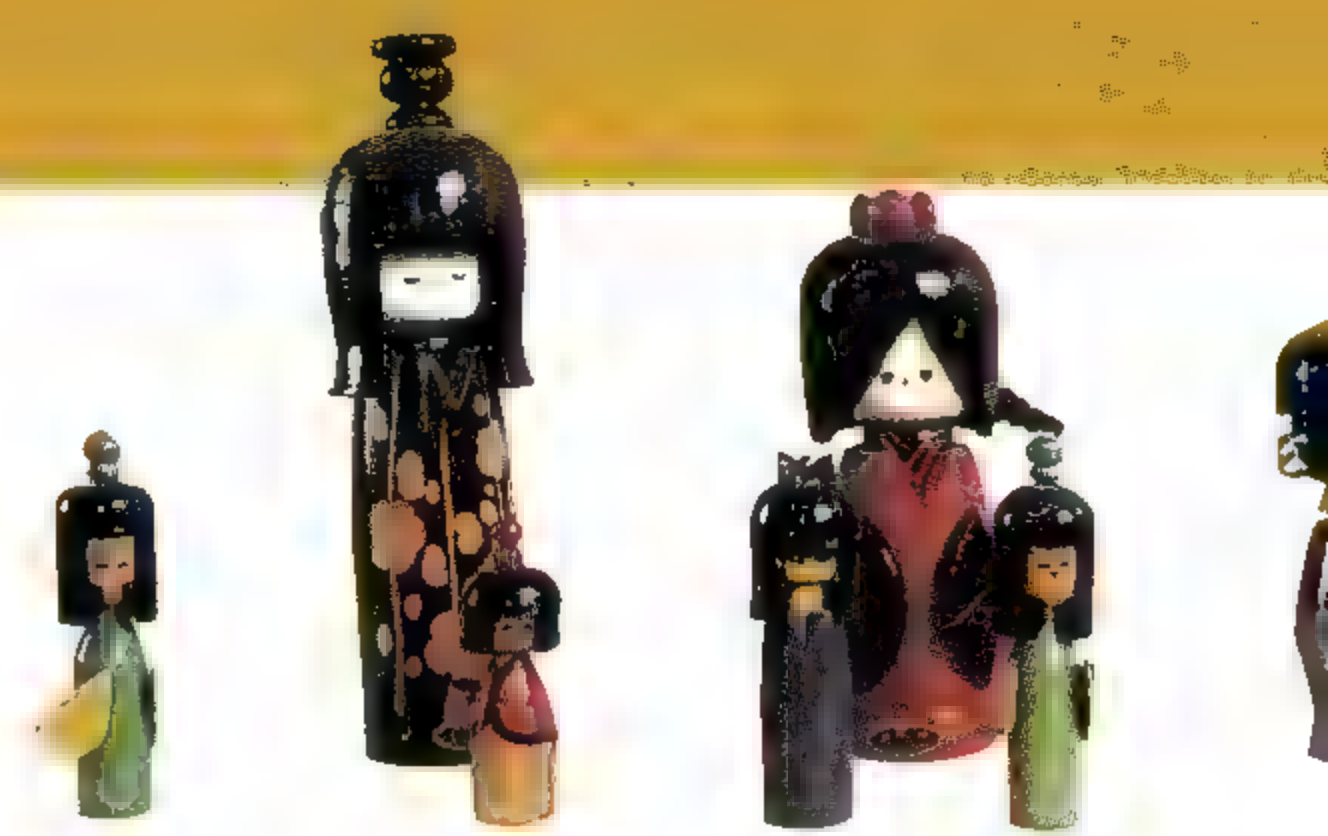
YUNNAN ARTS & CRAFTS I/E CORP.

General Manager: Chen Yuncheng Add: 4th Floor, Foreign Trade Bldg.,
576 Beijing Road, Kunming, Yunnan, China Cable: 6011 (Domestic) YNART KUNMING (Int'l)
Telex: 64072 YUART CN Fax: 0871-33047 Tel: 33152 43577 33033 32979

雲南省工藝品進出口公司

總經理：陳雲誠 地址：雲南省昆明市北京路 576 號外貿大樓四樓

電掛：6011 (國內) YNART KUNMING (國外) 電傳：64072 YNART CN 傳真：0871 -33074
電話：33152 43577 33033 32979





Yunnan Provincial I/E Corp. is a comprehensive foreign trade corp. approved by the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations & Trade and under the administration of Yunnan Foreign Economic Relations & Trade Dept.. It maintains 7 branches throughout the province and has set up an office and a branch in Guangzhou and Zhuhai respectively. In addition, it also has branches in Hongkong, Laos and the United States.

Scope of Business

- Undertaking import business for Yunnan Province and acting as import agent.
- Import and export of technology and introduction of complete sets of equipment from abroad.
- Dealing in jewelry, jade, precious stones and teak wood as well as light industrial products, chemicals, metals and minerals.
- Conducting Yunnan's trade and border trade with peripheral countries.
- Handling Yunnan's trade with Eastern Europe and Taiwan.
- Utilization of foreign capital, conducting foreign economic cooperation.
- Consignment sales for import and export goods.
- Leasing business and consultancy services.



雲南省進出口公司是經國家對外經濟貿易部批准成立並直屬於雲南省對外經濟貿易廳領導的綜合性外貿公司。現在省內設立七個分公司，在廣州、珠海分別設有辦事處或分支機構，在香港、老撾及美國也建立了分公司，並參加了全國性的五礦化工、紡織品、輕工工藝、糧油土畜產品、醫藥保健品、電子元器件及機電產品等七個進出口商會。

經營範圍

- 承擔雲南全省的進口或代理進口業務
- 技術出口、技術進口和引進成套設備
- 經營寶石、玉石、柚木及輕工、化工、五金礦產、紡織、食品、工藝、機電儀器等各類商品的出口業務
- 承擔雲南省同周邊國家的地方貿易和邊境貿易

• 主營雲南省同東歐及對台灣貿易

• 利用外資，開展對外經濟合作

• 辦理國內外寄售業務

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YUNNAN PROVINCIAL IMPORT AND EXPORT CORPORATION

General Manager: Chen Yuncheng Add: 8th and 9th Floor, Foreign Trade Bldg., 576 Beijing Road, Kunming, Yunnan, China Cable: 6651 KUNMING (Domestic) YIEPORT KUNMING (Int'l) Telex: 64039 YPIEC CN Fax: (0871) 34451 Tel: 67239 62983 31245 34746 34157

雲南省進出口公司

總經理：陳雲誠 地址：雲南省昆明市北京路 576 號外貿大樓八、九樓
電掛：昆明 6651 (國內) YIEPORT KUNMING (國外) 電傳：64039 YPIEC CN
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離不開的

源

魅力

555[®]

Established in 1928, Guangzhou Battery Factory is not only a large self-managed import and export enterprise, but also the largest specialized producer of dry batteries in the country at present. Our output and export of dry batteries ranks us first in this field.

Guangzhou Battery Factory has consolidated both domestic and foreign battery production techniques, adopted advanced technology and strengthened scientific management to make Guangzhou Batteries which have been produced for over 60 years a more sophisticated and quality product. It manufactures zinc-manganese, alkaline zinc-manganese silvery-zinc, lithium-manganese. Lithium-silver chloride and lithium-copper chloride batteries, including "555" brand, "Tigerlead" brand, "Aviation" brand, "Five Rams" brand and "Flying Elephant" brand batteries, 8 series, 72 types, altogether. Our "555" brand battery is the only product in the battery industry to have won a National Silver Medal, and Golden Medal in the first Beijing International Fair. In 1990, "555" LR6 Basic batteries were awarded a National Quality Gold Medal.

The products of our factory have the characteristics of excellent quality, and are warmly received by users. Our batteries sell well in more than 20 countries and regions, including Southeast Asia, the Middle East, Africa, Europe, and America.

Add: 132 Gongye Rd. (N) Guangzhou, China

Tel: 4449532 4429126 Cable: 2008

Telex: 44581 GBFAY CN Fax: 4429052

地址：廣州工業大道北 132 號

電話：4449532 4429126 電掛：2008

電傳：44581 GBFAY CN 傳真：4429052

廣州電池廠始建於一九二八年，是目前全國規模最大，產銷量、出口量為全國同行業之首，並直接經營出口電池業務的乾電池生產專業廠。該廠集中外電池生產技術之精華，吸收世界先進科技，加強科學管理，使具有六十多年歷史的廣州電池更加精益求精。產品有鋅錳、鹼性鋅錳、銀鋅、鋰錳、鋰氯化銀、鋰氯化亞銅等八個系列的“555”牌、虎頭牌、航空牌、五羊牌、飛象牌等各種型號的乾電池，共七十一個品種。“555”牌電池分別榮獲國家銀質獎和北京首屆國際博覽會金獎，“555”牌 LR6 鹼性電池於一九九〇年獲國質量金質獎。該廠產品以質量優良遠銷東南亞、中東、非洲、歐美等七十多個國家和地區，深受用戶歡迎。

GUANGZHOU BATTERY FACTORY

廣州電池廠



廣州電池廠
廣州市電池工業公司



在鞏固中求發展；

在海外及窗口中求開拓；

在經營和管理中求效益；

中化江蘇進出口公司專營無機、有機、染料、

染料中間體、農葯、顏料、塗料、塑料、橡膠製品、

石油化工等進出口產品及其他靈活貿易。

觀迎各國貿易界朋友前來洽談，我們願竭誠為您服務。

TO DEVELOP IN A STABLE MANNER;

TO OPEN UP OVERSEAS ENTERPRISES AND

DOMESTIC REPRESENTATIVE OFFICES;

TO PROMOTE EFFICIENCY IN OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT,

SINOCHEM JIANGSU IMPORT AND EXPORT CORPORATION

SPECIALIZES IN THE IMPORT AND EXPORT OF PRODUCTS IN

THE FIELDS OF INORGANIC AND ORGANIC MATERIALS,

DYESTUFFS, INTERMEDIATES, PESTICIDES, PAINTS,

PIGMENTS, PLASTICS, RUBBER PRODUCTS AND PETRO CHEMICALS, ETC.

WITH REGARD TO DOING BUSINESS, WE ADOPT DIVERSIFIED TRADE MEANS.

FRIENDS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD IN INDUSTRIAL AND TRADE

CIRCLES ARE WELCOME TO DISCUSS BUSINESS WITH

US. IT ALWAYS REMAINS OUR GREATEST PLEASURE TO SERVE YOU AT ANY TIME.

中化江蘇進出口公司

地址：中國南京中華路50號

電話：202918

電掛：1581 南京

電傳：34109 CIENJ CN

傳真：025-407789

郵政編號：210001

**SINOCHEM JIANGSU
IMP. & EXP. CORP.**

ADD: 50 ZHONG HUA ROAD,
NANJING, P.R. CHINA

TEL: 202918

CABLE: SINOCHEM NANJING

TELEX: 34109 CIENJ CN

FAX: 025-407789

POST CODE: 210001



Henan Machinery & Equipment Imp. & Exp. Corp. is a corporation which combines industry with trade. We have established friendly trade relations with many countries and regions in Asia, Europe, America and

Africa. The total value of imports and exports

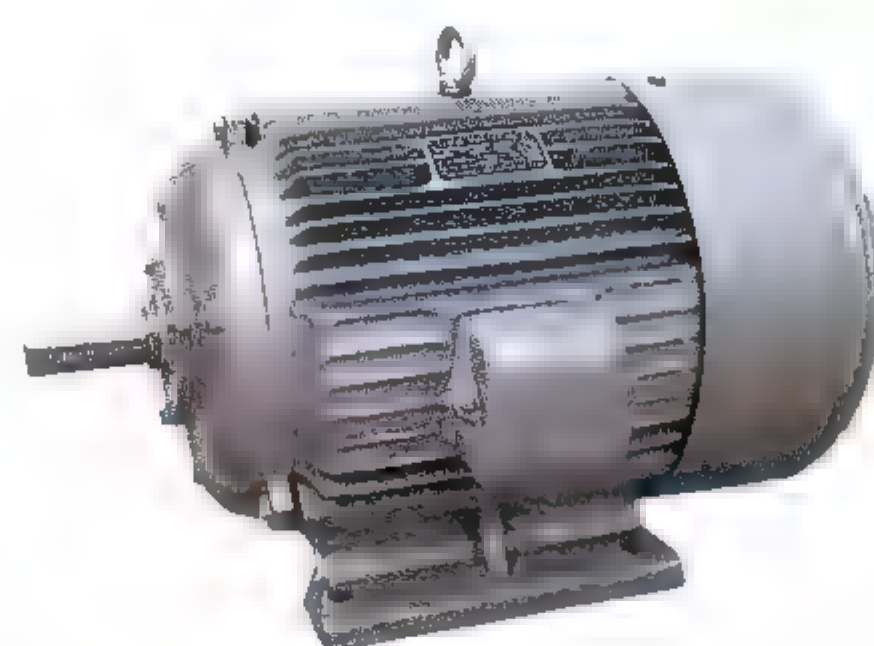
has been increased every year since its founding in 1979.

Henan mechanical and electronic industry has a solid foundation, including many large manufacturers. These plants and factories have a long history, advanced equipment and able technical personnel, hence their products are of good quality and various in types and specifications.

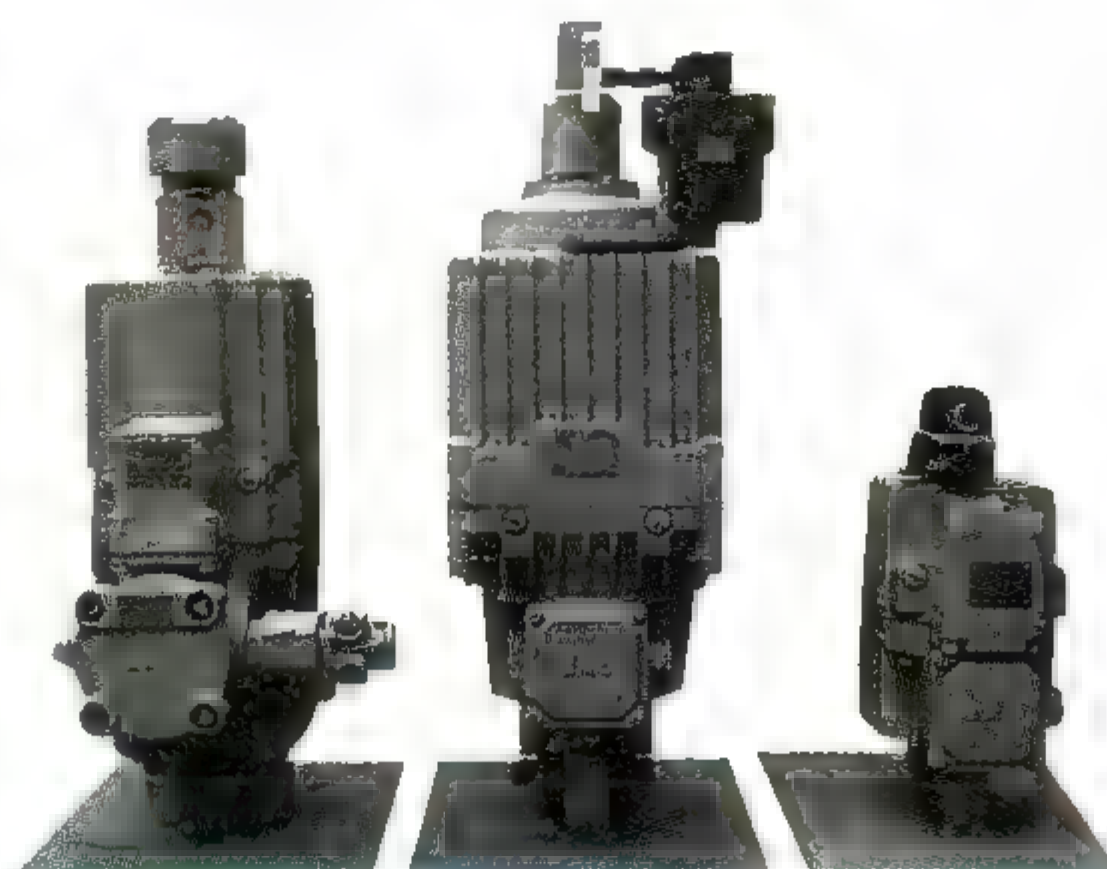
Among these enterprises are Luoyang Bearing Factory, The First Tractor Plant of China, Luoyang Mining Machinery Plant, Luoyang High-speed Diesel Engine Factory, The Second Abrasive Wheel Factory of China, Zhengzhou Cable Works, Zhengzhou Hydraulic Machinery Plant, Pingdingshan High-voltage Switch Factory, Xuchang Relay Factory, Xuchang Insulation Material Factory, Kaifeng Combine Factory, Kaifeng High-pressure Valve Factory, Luoyang Machine Tool Works, Xinyang Woodworking Machinery Factory, Anyang Machine Tool Factory, Anyang Storage Battery Factory, Kaifeng Instrument Factory, Zhumadian Electric Meter Factory, Anyang Machine Tool Factory.

Situated in the Central part of China, Henan Province has rich resources and convenient communication facilities.

Model DQR-1
Roundness Measuring Instrument



J02 Series three phase induction motors
380/420V 50HZ 2 pole & 4 pole
0.8HP to 100HP



ED series Thrusters YTI series Thrusters
YWZ5 series brake CYWZ manual —
mechanical operation type, normally — opentype

Places of historic interest and scenic spots can be found all over the province such as Luoyang City, the ancient capital of nine dynasties, Kaifeng City, the ancient capital of the Song Dynasty, Shaolin Temple, an ancient temple with a long history as well as Mount Mong Scenic Spot by the Yellow River, etc. All these provide ideal conditions for Henan Province to discuss business, expand tourism and export mechanical & electronic products and components. The main products exported through our corporation are machine tools and their accessories, forging equipment, abrasive and grinding apparatus, industrial bearings, universal machinery, mining equipment, agricultural machinery, power machinery, wires and cables, instruments and meters, castings and forgings, fasteners as well as electronic products and components. We also deal with flexible trade practices, such as manufacturing according to customer's samples, designs or brands, processing with supplied materials as well as compensatory trade and technical co-operation. We are willing to cooperate with old friends who have established friendly trade relations with us and new friends who are willing to establish and develop trade relations with us. We shall treasure these cooperative friendships and make every effort to strengthen them.



HENAN MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT IMP. & EXP. CORP. **河南省機械設備進出口公司**

Add: Northern Section of Jing Wu Road, Jinshui District, Zhengzhou, Henan, China Tel: 555310 555320 556053 Tlx: 46054 ZHCME CN Fax: 0371-555411 Post code: 450003

Cable: EQUIMPLEX 地址: 中國河南鄭州金水區經五路北段 電報: 0656 電話: 555310 555320 556053 郵政編碼: 450003 電傳: 46054 ZHCME CN 傳真: 0371-555411



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M.S. Animal Chain exported by this Corporation is made of selected wire rod, having superior quality and fine workmanship. It is chiefly used for leading and restraining domestic animals. It may also be used as ordinary light iron chain.

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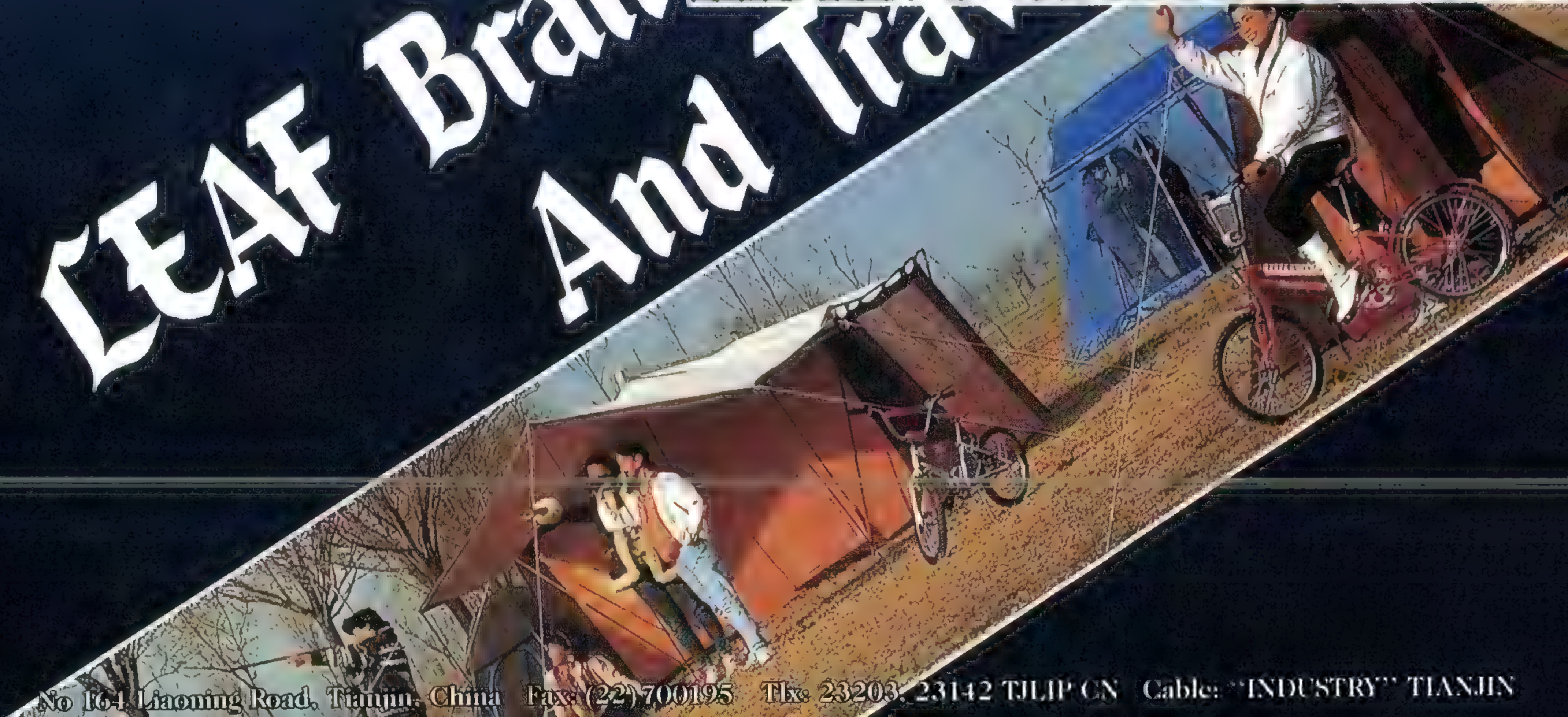
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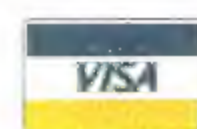
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Which articles in this issue did you find the most interesting?

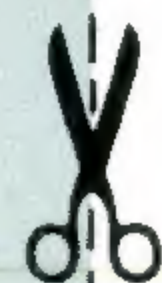
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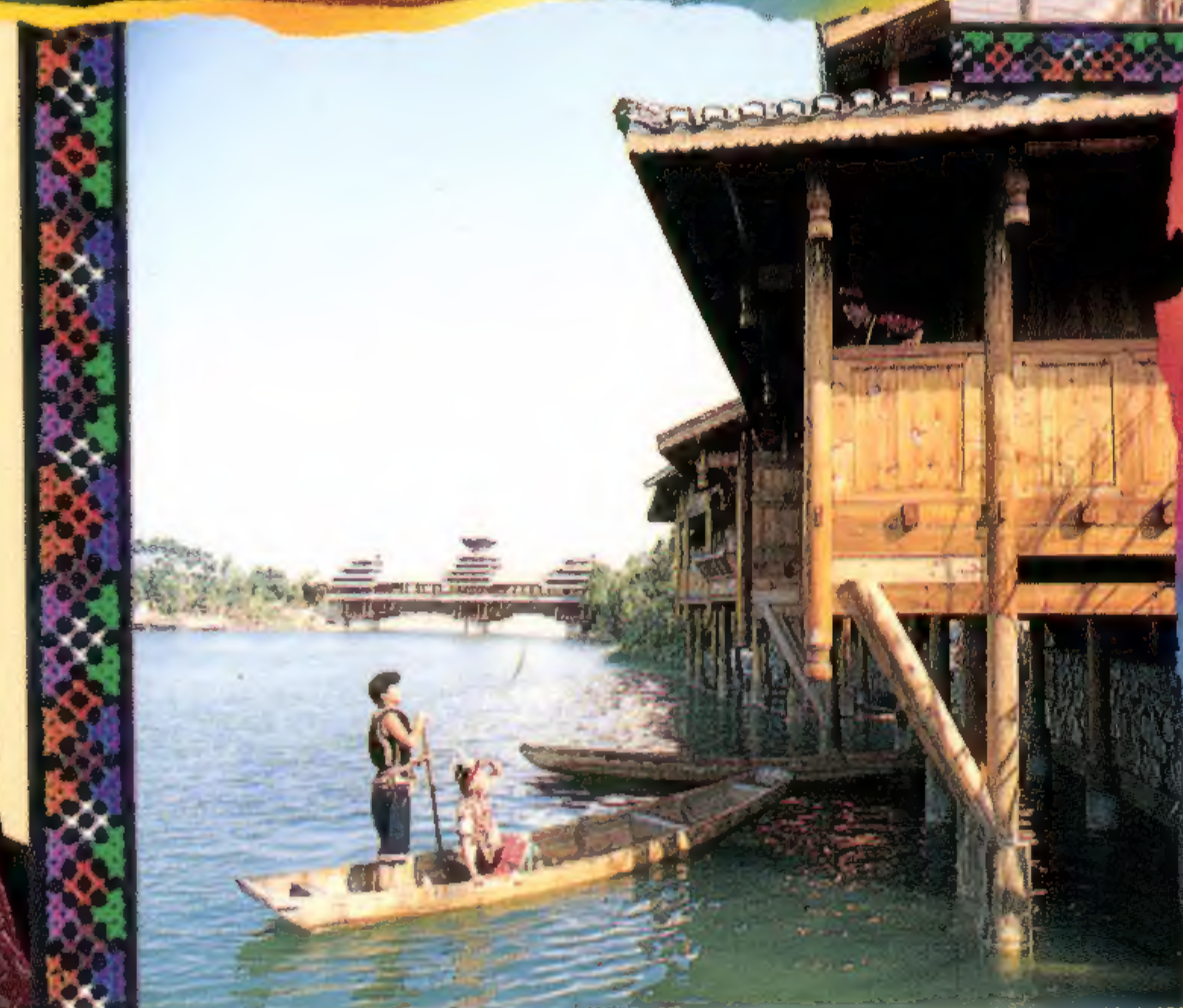
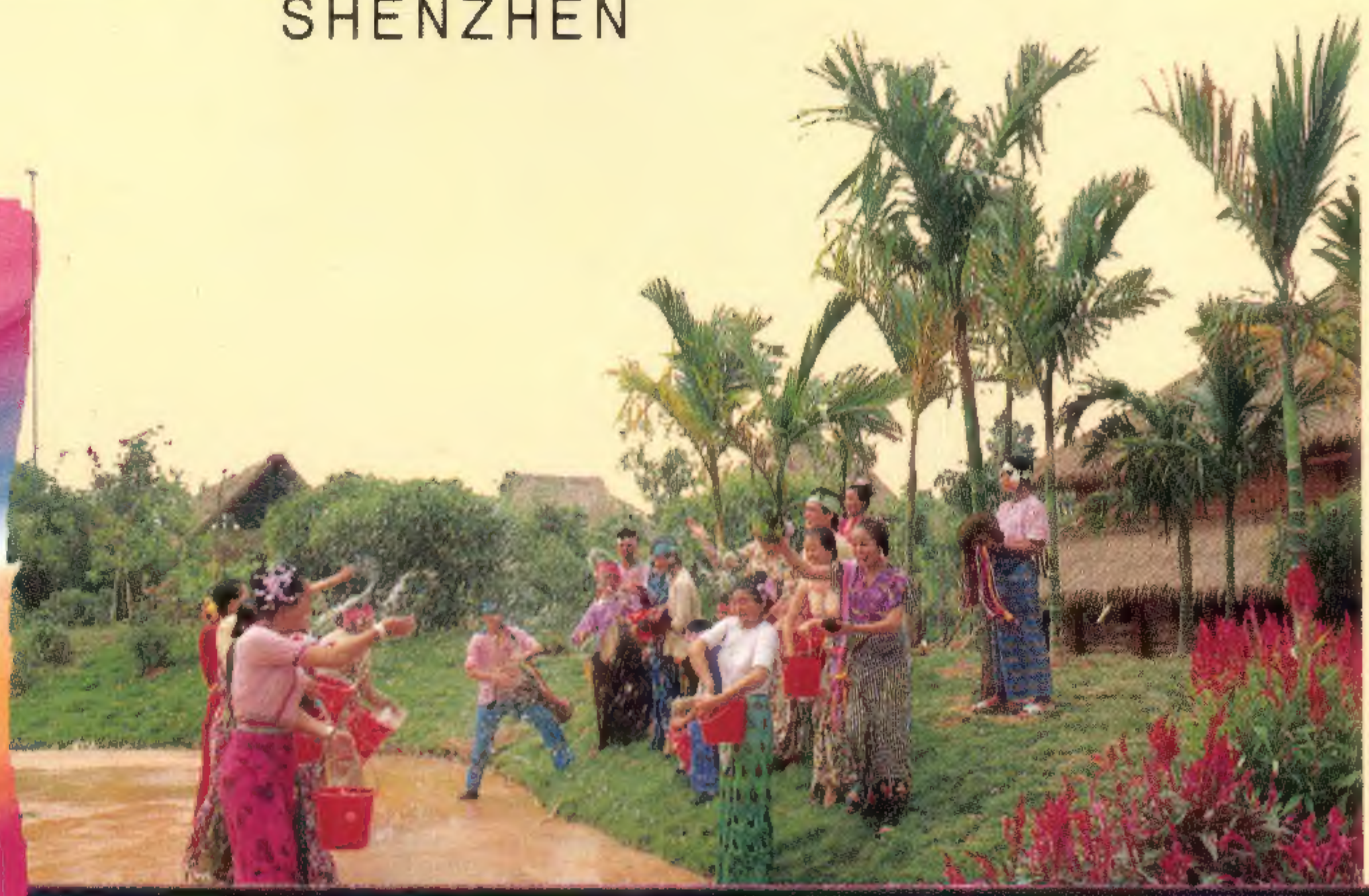
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China Folk Culture Villages

SHENZHEN

With an area of 180,000 square metres, China Folk Culture Villages is adjacent to "Splendid China" Scenic Spot. Built in the Villages are 24 villages of China's minority nationalities who are living in Yunnan, Guizhou, Sichuan, Tibet, Hunan, Xinjiang, Inner Mongolia, etc. as well as more than 20 well-known scenic spots, which are all built on the scale of 1:1. Here you can enjoy the performance of folk song and dance, and folk acrobatics presented by a few hundred minority artists. You will also get some idea of folk arts, and customs and lives of China's various minority nationalities.



- * China Folk Culture Villages consisting of the world's largest number of minority nationalities
- * The world's largest man-made stone forest, banyan, waterfall, cave and the largest laser folk music fountain in the world
- * Appreciating all kinds of folk customs and local conditions
- * Enjoying primitive, graceful song and dance
- * Having a taste of unique flavour of local snacks and delicacies
- * A grand "Folk Arts Parade" held each day
- * Folk festive celebrations held each month



CHINA TRAVEL SERVICE (HONG KONG) LIMITED

(General Agent for the Business of "China Folk Culture Villages"
in Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan as well as Overseas)

CTS House, 78-83 Connaught Road Central, Hong Kong.
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**SHENZHEN SPLENDID CHINA DEVELOPMENT
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